



THE TIMES TOMORROW

Take a breath
Bernard Levin on
Michael Heseltine
(below) and free
speech



Take the tube
Skirt lengths are
no longer a fashion issue.
But widths are. Suzy
Menkes reports on the
Fashion Page

Take care

Opposition is growing
among American
scientists to President
Reagan's "star wars"
plan to put weapons
in space

Take a look

Brian Glanville on the
world of football

Take a chance

Computer Horizons
offers another chance to
win a school computer

Three shot dead in gospel hall

Three people were shot dead
when gunmen burst into a
gospel hall in the border village
of Darkley, near Keady, Armagh.
First reports indicated that
seven other people were
injured.

Schmidt plea on missiles fails

Despite a powerful appeal from
former Chancellor Schmidt, the
Social Democratic Congress in
Cologne rejected the deployment
of new Nato missiles in
West Germany

Page 6

Falkland forum

Conservative MPs are among
politicians, academics and
businessmen planning to campaign
for a peaceful settlement of the
Falkland Islands dispute

Page 2

Villain to hero

Trevor Fishlock describes how
Maurice Bishop changed in
American eyes from communist
despot to local hero in the first
of three articles on Grenada

Page 7

Shopping spree

High street shops should see a
record Christmas spending
spree. Almost 80 per cent of
retailers expect November sales
to be up on a year ago,
according to the CBI

Page 15

Hit for six

Mr Graham Walton, father of
the sextuplets born in Liverpool
on Friday. Doctors twice saved
the babies from possible death
before the birth

Page 3

Shergar colt

A colt of Shergar, the stolen
Derby winner, was sold for
260,000 guineas at Goffs
bloodstock sales in the Irish
Republic

Photograph, page 3

The Times

We regret that following
an industrial dispute earlier
editions of *The Times* on
Saturday appeared with certain
pages not in normal sequence.
Some items were omitted from
all editions.

Leader page 11
Letters: On Cyprus, from Mr F.
Nicol-Baker, and others
Oxfordshire entry, from Mr R. W.
Ellis, and Mr S. J. B. Langdale;
Calle Abbey, from Lord Gibson
Leading articles: Archbishop of
York; divorce

Features, pages 8-10
Heinrich Schmidt on cruise and
Pershing, the social welfare
policy jungle; Labour's new
election campaign, by Robin
Cook, MP; Spectrum interviews
Muriel Spark; Modern Times
on handbags

Obituary, page 12
Air Vice-Marshal Sir Geoffrey
Broome, the Hon Richard
Stanley

Page 12

Tory MPs in campaign for an alternative to Fortress Falklands

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Several Conservative MPs are involved in a move to set up a new forum of politicians from all parties, academics and businessmen aimed at promoting a peaceful settlement of the Falkland Islands dispute between Britain and Argentina.

Delicate discussions are taking place at Westminster about the group, expected to be called the South Atlantic Committee, which it is hoped will be formed by Christmas. Foreign Office ministers have been made aware of the initiative.

Its leaders recognize that they are on sensitive ground and do not expect a warm response from their plans from the Prime Minister, who has repeatedly expressed the view that there is no option to the Fortress Falklands policy.

Mr Cyril Townsend, Conservative MP for Bexleyheath, and Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley, who are the key figures behind the move, both served on the all-party Com-

mission select committee on foreign affairs which, though its report was never officially published, earlier this year questioned the long-term viability of a Fortress Falklands policy. It concluded that the government should not turn its back on talks with Argentina.

Neither has been reappointed to the committee, whose membership was fixed last week. Mr Foulds would not have been able to serve as he had recently been appointed to Labour's front bench as a spokesman on Europe.

The initiative has support already from the Liberal and Social Democratic parties. One of the academic members is likely to be Dr Walter Little, a specialist on Latin-American affairs, who was the chief adviser to the select committee in its inquiry on the Falklands.

Several leading companies, whose business has suffered from the loss of normal relations with Argentina, have expressed an interest in being

represented on the group. Funds for its operation are being raised, and it is hoped to employ a full-time secretary-organizer. Peers and churchmen are also expected to serve.

The venture began during the summer after Mr Townsend, Mr Foulkes and Dr Little, met Argentine academics and officials, along with a panel of American academics, at the University of Maryland, near Washington, and are understood to have established common ground on the need to restore good relations.

Mr Foulkes said that the aim was to encourage people towards thinking about a negotiated settlement to the Falklands problem; the alternative was the building up of Fortress Falklands.

● Port Stanley (Reuters) — A Royal Air Force pilot died yesterday when his Harrier crashed on a routine flight over the Falkland Islands, a military spokesman said. The jump jet went down in Lafonia, in the south of East Falkland Island.

Overseas doctors face time limit

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Services Correspondent

Hundreds of overseas doctors working in National Health Service hospitals will lose the right to practise in the UK next year, and hundreds more are likely to follow over the next few years.

The doctors, many from the Indian sub-continent, were given limited registration to practise and train in Britain for five years, under a scheme started in February 1979.

But many have not been able to achieve the higher qualifications they need to transfer to the full registration which would give them the right to practise in the UK indefinitely.

As their five-year periods run out they will face the choice of remaining in Britain unable to work as doctors, or going back to their countries of origin without the higher qualifications they came to the UK to get.

The Department of Health estimates that about 300 will be affected in the early part of next year, but admits the figure is "a very rough guess". Dr Krishna Kortipara, secretary of the Overseas Doctors' Association, says he fears the numbers could be higher. "Many of these doctors are the victims of the system that has been unfair to them," he said.

"We believe these doctors should at least be given the kind of training which the medical profession acknowledges they have not in fact had, and should then be considered for full registration."

The Government, however, shows no willingness to change the rules. Ministers argue that the doctors clearly knew at the beginning that they would have only limited registration. With junior doctors' leaders claiming that up to 3,000 doctors are now unemployed in the United Kingdom, the Government is unlikely to change its mind.

Tory overspenders 'escape penalties'

By John Young

The Government's proposals to curb rates are directed arbitrarily and viciously at local authorities which have incurred its displeasure, rather than at those which are genuinely overspending, a report published today by the Labour Research Department says.

The report argues that, far from soaring, local authority spending has failed to keep pace with the growth of the economy. The suggestion in the White Paper that rates constitute "a particularly heavy burden" on business and commerce, is contradicted by the Confederation of British Industry's own figures which show that rates have amounted to less than 2 per cent of production costs for the past 20 years.

Yours Council Under Attack (Labour Research Department, 78 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8HS: 60p).

War on gobbledegook

A campaign is being launched to get rid of gobbledegook in contracts, which a report published today says is so baffling that the contracts may be misunderstood or not read at all by customers signing them.

The report, Small Print, a joint effort by the National Consumer Council and Plain English Campaign, has been sent to trade associations and companies.

Special attention is being paid to the credit industry

because consumer credit regulations just announced by the Government stipulate that credit agreements must contain certain basic information and be "easily legible".

Mr Jeremy Mitchell, director of the National Consumer Council, said there would be a fresh approach to paper work, as virtually all agreements would have to be rewritten.

The report challenges the myth that documents in "legal language" are more valid than those in plain English.

When his sang froid proves too cool

Charm him with
JANNEAU GRAND ARMAGNAC BRANDY

Too good to keep to yourself



World chess championship semi-finalists getting together in London yesterday. From left: Gary Kasparov and his opponent Viktor Korchnoi; Vassily Smyslov and his opponent Zoltan Ribli. (Photograph: John Manning)

Korchnoi faces clash of age and politics

Viktor Korchnoi, one of the most controversial grandmasters in the history of chess, yesterday met the young genius from his Soviet homeland, Gary Kasparov, on the eve of what is to be the greatest chess event in Britain for more than a century. They play each other at the

Great Eastern Hotel in London today in the semi-finals of the series to produce a challenger to meet the world champion, Anatoly Karpov.

The other semi-final is between Vassily Smyslov of the Soviet Union and the Hungarian grandmaster Zoltan Ribli.

Korchnoi, aged 53, and

Kasparov, aged 20, are agreed on one thing: age could be a vital factor when they clash. And, Korchnoi said, so could politics.

Korchnoi, who was born in Leningrad, defected in 1976 after representing his country and then twice challenged

Karpov, whom he describes as

"the banner of the Soviet regime", in bitter chessboard conflicts in 1978 and 1981.

But Kasparov, widely tipped as the next world champion, said: "I just play chess."

The semi-finals were officially opened by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson

At any one time there are about 200 prisoners on the run after escapes from all types of jail, hospitals or abducting from leave, escorts or working parties.

The call for strict security comes from Mr Alan Eastwood, vice-chairman of the Police Federation, which represents 120,000 officers up to the rank of chief inspector.

He told *The Times*: "There is frustration among police officers who see criminals tried and convicted escape almost at will from prisons."

The escape of 51 prisoners from one jail highlighted the extra work placed on the police in having to recapture them, he said.

"We would like to see some disquiet the placing in open prisons of offenders imprisoned on more serious charges", Mr Eastwood added.

The Prison Department is seeking to renegotiate "where appropriate" local authority agreements which govern the type of inmate sent to an open prison.

Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, has told local MPs about moves to lift curbs on three open prisons, Ashwell in Leicestershire, Ford in West Sussex and Kirkham in Lancashire.

A period in open jails for long-sentence prisoners, including killers, is regarded as a way of preparing them for eventual release.

The Prison Department's latest figures, in the annual report, show that 131 lifers were being held in open prisons. Last year there was a sharp rise from 38 to 43 in escapes from open prisons, out of a total of 555 from all establishments, an increase from 46 in the previous year.

Postal bids which start at £10 a day, must be received before January 1984. Catalogues and information can be obtained from Mr Alex Pritchard, Courtleigh Manor, Lady Margaret Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire SL5 9QH.

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The first four months of this year 30 prisoners escaped from escorts in 25 separate incidents, which prompted Mr William Brister, Deputy director-general of the prison service, to speak of the increase as "alarming".

The murderers from Leyhill were recaptured within hours after a police hunt. Darren Marshall, aged 23, the 51st man to escape from Sudbury, was recaptured in Dudley, West Midlands, last Wednesday after being on the run for 22 hours. He is serving a sentence for theft and drug offences.

Mr David Owen said last night he might have stayed in the Labour Party if Mr Denis Healey had become its leader.

"A lot of history over the last five years would have been different", the SDP leader said in an interview on *Radio Luxembourg*. Dr Owen, who left Labour in 1981 to help to found the SDP, named Mr Healey as one of his political heroes.

He said it was regrettable that Mr Healey had not "condemned himself in a way that he could have become the leader of the Labour Party". Asked if he would have remained in the party had that happened, Dr Owen replied: "Maybe. Who knows? I hope so."

But he also criticized the Labour right wing for losing touch with reality. Dr Owen said: "I think the fact that Denis Healey did not stand up and fight, which is what he ought to have done, demonstrates how much the rot had set in. Good people were just getting used to compromising on essentials that they had lost sight of reality."

Dr Owen also praised Mr James Callaghan, in whose administration he served as Foreign Minister, as "a sensible and good leader".

Correction

The merger of St Bartholomew's and The London Hospital medical colleges at Queen Mary College concerns pre-clinical students only, and is not a merger of the whole of the colleges as suggested on November 10. Pre-clinical students are those in their first two years. Clinical medical and dental students, about two thirds of the colleges' students, will remain in their present medical colleges at St Bartholomew's or The London.

Overseas selling prices

Austria 500g 22s 500g 24s 1kg 26s France 500g 7.00s 500g 8.00s Germany 500g 10.00s 500g 12.00s Italy 500g 10.00s 500g 12.00s Spain 500g 10.00s 500g 12.00s Switzerland 500g 10.00s 500g 12.00s

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Divorce in Britain: 1

Legal reforms arouse church alarm but may iron out present inequities

"Divorce is like Armageddon," one separated woman said last week. "There are no winners. Just a lot of ruins."

Such apocalyptic statements emerge from a growing awareness that the divorce rate in Britain is now one of the highest in the western world.

Almost 150,000 people in England and Wales get divorced every year and one in three marriages will break up amid recriminations and financial squabbling and often with young and confused children.

From being a social taboo which forced a monarch to abdicate less than half a century ago, divorce has in the past 25 years become, like the motor car and television, a national pastime. There are now two million divorced people in this country and almost everyone has direct experience, either through family or friends.

According to a marriage researcher, divorce is one of the most traumatic of events, ranking alongside close family bereavement or loss of a limb. Even children are said to find it easier to accept the death of one of their parents than their divorce.

Worrying background

It is against this worrying background that the Church of England is debating whether to allow people to remarry in church, and the Government is introducing the first legislation on divorce for a decade.

The Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, which could become law within a year, proposes changing the financial aftermath of separation. By implication it accepts that in certain cases husbands have paid maintenance for too long and that former wives should be encouraged to make a clean break. It also proposes ending marriages after one year instead of three, accepting that law is now frequently breached.

Debated by both the church and the state will inevitably arouse controversy. People feel torn between accepting that divorce should mean a complete break while admitting that women are at a disadvantage because many have ruined career prospects by having children.

"Because there is such a residue of bitterness, however you legislate there will be people who will feel aggrieved," a divorce lawyer said.

Nor are there many hopeful signs. Although there has been a levelling off in recent years, divorces have increased six-fold in the past 25 years.

But the rapid increase in divorce has not discouraged people from getting married. The institution has remained as popular as ever, although people are now waiting longer. The number of women marrying under the age of 20 has

The first important legislation on divorce since the Divorce Reform Act of 1969 has its second reading in the Lords today. The Bill has already aroused controversy. Its critics say it will benefit only middle class men and the churches are alarmed that it will further undermine the permanence of marriage. The Government, however, maintains it will merely iron out inequities in the present legislation. JOHN WITHEROW, in the first of three articles, looks at the background to the rapid growth of divorce in Britain and considers the possible impact of the Bill.

fallen from one in three 10 years ago, to one in five at present rates.

None the less, 85 per cent of women are married by the age of 25, and nine out of ten have children. The more risky age is between 25 and 29, when one in thirty couples divorce.

Although Britain has a divorce rate well behind the United States, where one in two marriages break up, no one would be rash enough to predict that a similar rate can be avoided here. Experts have constantly predicted a levelling off and yet divorce has continued to climb.

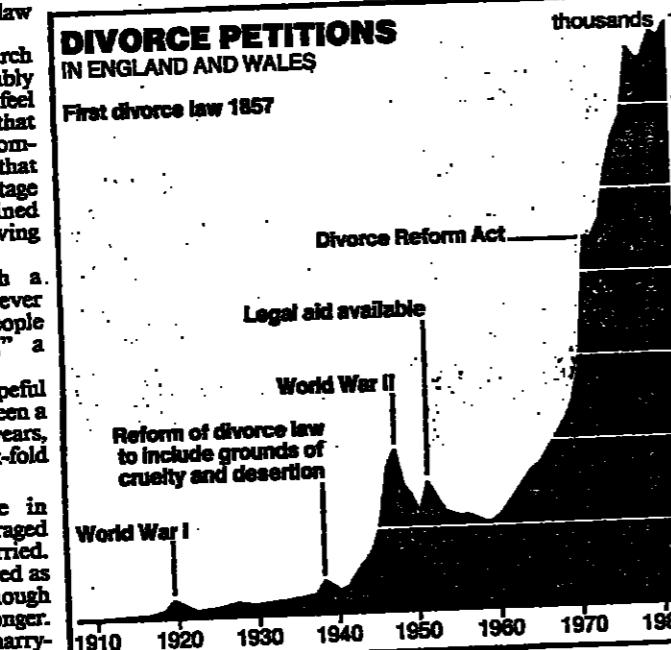
Rapid growth

And the new legislation, if it approves the one-year rule, will almost certainly see a sudden surge of petitions from people who have been waiting under the present three-year law.

No one can easily pinpoint the causes for the increase. Mr Robert Chester, reader in social administration at the University of Hull, says it can be attributed to factors that largely depend on your point of view. Some see it in a moral light with a failure to treat marriage seriously enough.

Others see it merely as a result of availability and a removal of the social stigma. And yet others argue it is a result of the changing role of women and of the expectations of marriage.

Whatever the causes, the result is untold suffering and a heavy burden on the state. Dr



the income or education, the greater the likelihood of breakdown.

Divorce can also harm your health. According to research in the United States, divorced people are several times more likely to need psychiatric treatment and have a mortality rate up to three times higher than the general population.

Children too are inevitably affected. Only 80 per cent of children aged between 10 and 15 live with both their natural parents, and in the next 10 years it has been estimated that another 1.6 million children will see their parents separate.

American research has found that as a result younger children are likely to have a greater dependence on the mother, and older ones often show signs of withdrawal and aggression.

Many of these children go on to join new families. While two thirds of divorce petitions are made by women, it is the men who are more likely to remarry, and the majority of young divorcees are married again. The man's second marriage is normally to a younger woman than his first wife.

Natural consequence

Divorce is a bigger social problem than unemployment, Dr Dominion added. It has led to a rapid growth in single parent families, many of them struggling on a lower standard of living from state benefits.

Contrary to some men's belief that most divorced women live comfortably from their former husbands' hard-earned income, recent research shows that only one in ten women rely exclusively on maintenance.

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Looping the loop: A moment of crisis for a contestant during the world surfing championships at Scheveningen, south of Amsterdam. Some of the most spectacular stunts were caused more by the stormy conditions than the surfers' skills.

Control of the economy is key to Polish reshuffle

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's Communist Party leadership has announced a high-level reshuffle which emphasizes the party's control over the economy and which attempts to paper over some of the ideological squabbles that have plagued the Communists.

The changes were disclosed on Saturday night after a two-day session of the policy-making Central Committee which was dedicated to discussing economic shortcomings in Poland and the chances of recovery. Some unusual frank comments — especially from workers members of the Central Committee — was heard during the session, with one steel worker attacking the "lack of clarity" in the plan for 1984 and a Wroclaw worker declaring that economic reform "should serve society and not just the economists."

There appear to be three guiding ideas behind the reshuffle. The first was to appoint Mr Marian Orzechowski, a well-known ideological exponent, as the rector of a new Academy of Social Sciences and

make him a deputy member of the Politburo.

The academy merges two party institutions — the Higher Party School and the Institute for Study of Marxism-Leninism — which in the view of some analysts has become the platform for suiping between the moderate and hardline Communists.

Mr Orzechowski is a leading member of a group known as Pron, designed to cultivate dialogue between the party and non-party members, and is seen as expected to steer a middle course.

Mr Tadeusz Porebski, a Politburo member and a professor of mechanical engineering, has been appointed to the powerful secretary of the Central Committee and is expected to take over some economic functions. Although Professor Porebski was once an adviser of the disgraced party leader, Mr Edward Gierek, he is well regarded within the Politburo and has now effectively entered the inner circle of party power.

Two other significant moves were made in the shake-up which many observers believe will be further complemented by changes in the Government this week — including the promotion of Mr Henryk Bednarski, First Party Secretary of Bydgoszcz, into the Central Committee and straight into its secretariat.

This is supposed to show that men of administrative talent can be speedily promoted within the party and is aimed at demonstrating that the Communist Party is not controlled by a closed circle.

The other principal change, the promotion of Mr Stanislaw Miszkiewicz, a former shipyard worker into the Szczecin shipyards into the Central Committee, brings into the ranks of the party leadership a former radical critic of the practices of the Politburo and one of the most zealous opponents of Mr Gierek after he had been overthrown.

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Under the proposed law, no proprietor or group would be allowed to own newspapers whose aggregated circulations amounted to more than 15 per cent of the total national sales for that type of newspaper. It would also be illegal to own both a national daily and a provincial daily.

Ownership of national newspapers would be limited to three, of which only one could be a daily. Only papers which devoted a third or more of their editorial space to political and general news coverage would be affected.

In order to ensure the "transparency" of ownership, every newspaper would be required to publish in each edition the name of the proprietor or proprietors and the titles of any other newspapers within the same ownership. The name of the editor and the size of circulation would also have to be given.

The newspaper's accounts would have to be published annually and no foreigner would be able to take over a French-language newspaper based in France.

The Government proposes to set up a commission of six members to ensure that the provisions of the new law are carried out in the interests of the "plurality" of the press.

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, insists that the Government is not introducing a new law, but rather bringing into force principles laid down in legislation introduced immediately after the Liberation in 1944 which have never been applied. The 1944 Order on the press incorporated the principle of "one man, one paper".

The Opposition has accused the Government of trying to stifle freedom of expression in the press, pointing out that the Government already has a monopoly of control over radio and television.

Mr Raymond Barre, the former Prime Minister, said that the Government's bid to control the press was the latest example of the Socialists' attempt to transform a pluralist society into a uniform, indoctrinated and intolerant one.

The Association of Newspaper Proprietors has protested strongly against both the content of the Bill and the Government's failure to enter into any prior consultations. Many small proprietors would prefer M. Hirsch's money to government control or bankruptcy. The journalists, for the most part, have welcomed the proposals.

Eurore in France over press reforms

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French Government's decision to bring in tough anti-trust legislation to limit the rise and power of press conglomerates has caused a furor. The Opposition has been quick to seize on the issue as another example of the Government's alleged assault on individual liberties.

Much of the uproar has been caused by the fact that the proposed new law is aimed primarily at M. Robert Hirsch, France's most powerful press baron and a fierce opponent of the left.

His empire includes three national newspapers — *Le Figaro*, *France Soir* and *L'Automobile* — and 10 provincial dailies, which together account for 20 per cent of daily newspaper sales. He also owns several specialist magazines.

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Was the CIA warned that a Soviet sub would run aground off Sweden?

Read Edward Toph's book *Submarine U-137*

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Lorries are seized in tax inquiry

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Vehicles worth more than £100,000 have been seized by customs officials investigating cases of alleged diesel fuel tax evasion.

Seven lorries have been impounded in raids by customs men in the West Midlands. An official said: "A number of people have been interviewed and our investigations are continuing."

At least 40 customs agents were involved in the raids on haulage yards and some private houses.

The searches were the culmination of an investigation into cases of the alleged evasion of duty and value-added tax on motor fuel.

Royal launch for 'picturephone'

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Princess Anne will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of automatic telephone dialling in Britain today by phoning the Lord Provost of Edinburgh from Bristol, just as her mother did a quarter of a century ago when she inaugurated the service.

However, today's call will be made with a "picturephone", a video and telephone link married together. This is expected to become as commonplace in the next 20 years as automatic dialling is at present.

The system of dialling by the Queen on December 5, 1958, called subscriber trunk dialling (STD), has developed to the extent that of the 10 million trunk calls made every day, 99 per cent use the automatic system.

The first codes used a mixture of numbers and letters but by 1966 a new system allowed the letters to be dropped.

Within five years of its inauguration, in 1963, automatic dialling was introduced for international telephone calls between London and Paris. Transatlantic direct dialling between London and New York started seven years later in 1970, and by 1975 26

countries were on the network.

Now the 30 million telephones in Britain have direct access to 135 countries and more than 500 million telephones around the world.

Bristol has always played an important part in British telecommunications. The first

West Country exchange was



The Queen inaugurating direct dialling in 1958 with Mr Ernest Marples, the then Postmaster-General.

President Bourguiba of Tunisia, the octogenarian doyen of Africa's leaders, who has ruled his country for more than a quarter of a century with an iron hand, has announced an extensive plan for the liberalization of his regime.

The ministry said yesterday that it would be looking very closely today at a report in *The Observer* yesterday that economics made to sonars and electronic equipment for Trident submarines will make them more vulnerable to attack.

Welsh soldier freed from Malta ordeal

First poll test for Italian left

From Peter Nichols, Rome

A Welsh soldier injured his first day of freedom yesterday after seven months in a Maltese jail.

Mr Anthony Price, aged 21, remained with his parents in Malta, Tyffil, Mid Glamorgan, and was accused of being involved in a bizarre plot to shoot Mr Dom Mintoff, the Prime Minister.

Price, who deserted from the Royal Regiment of Wales in West Germany last March, protested his innocence but was held in Valletta prison while the Maltese authorities continued their inquiries.

Mr Edward Bowlands, Labour MP for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, and a former Foreign Office minister, raised his case in the Commons because of concern for the soldier's position over the lack of evidence.

Price, freed after a special court hearing on Friday, arrived in Britain on Saturday and was immediately detained

by the Army for two hours at Heathrow airport.

He was allowed to spend the rest of the weekend with his family on condition that he reports today to Crickhowell barracks.

Price, who lost more than two stone in jail, said: "It's great to be back home, a tremendous relief." He declined to comment in detail about his experiences.

His father

Korchnoi's complaint. Is there a remedy?



VIKTOR KORCHNOI
AGE 52.

ZOLTAN RIBLI.
AGE 32.

GARRY KASPAROV.
AGE 20.

VASSILY SMYSLOV.
AGE 62.

There is a major source of irritation in Viktor Korchnoi's life.

He has twice suffered defeat at the hands of Anatoly Karpov, failing to seize the World Chess Champion's crown.

To have any hope of remedying his grievance, Mr. Korchnoi must first get through the World Chess Championship Semi-Finals, starting today at London's Great Eastern Hotel.

(It's Britain's most important chess tournament since the first World Championship was held here in 1851.)

Korchnoi is lined up for twelve nerve-racking games against the prodigiously gifted Garry Kasparov.

Meanwhile, the tension will also be mounting steadily between the veteran Vassily Smyslov and the formidable Zoltan Ribli.

The brains behind these battles of the mental giants are Acorn, manufacturers of the

BBC Microcomputer. Away from its increasing educational, domestic and business commitments, the BBC Micro is a particularly keen chess player.

In fact, its interest in the game is such that it has computed each grandmaster's likelihood of getting through to next year's Final.

It reckons Mr. Kasparov's probability to be no less than 89%.

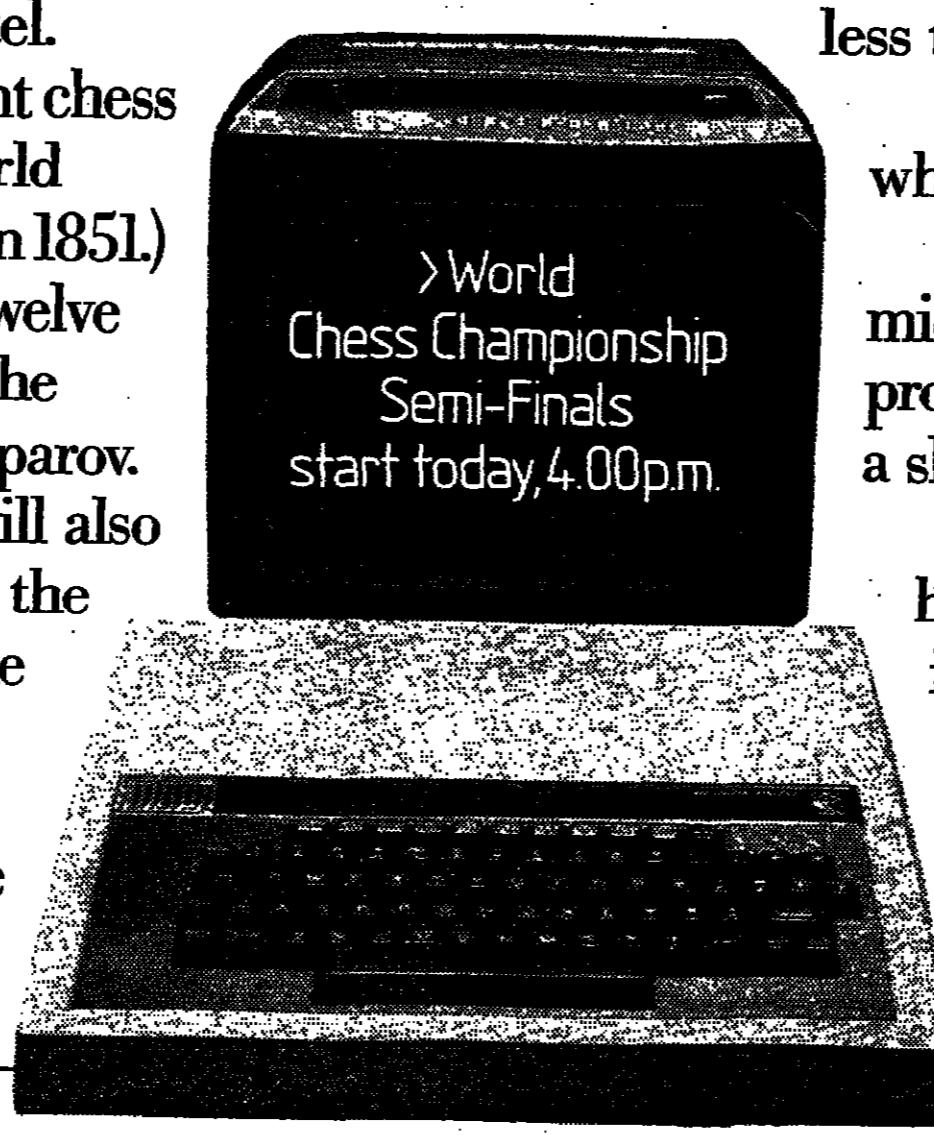
Mr. Ribli's probability is 60%, while Mr. Smyslov's is 40%.

Alas, the precocious £399 micro claims that Mr. Korchnoi's probability of pulling through is a slender 11%.

In the stark face of adversity, however, he should certainly be inspired to give a performance which leaves no room for complaint.

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>World
Chess Championship
Semi-Finals
start today, 4.00p.m.

British readiness to sell arms to Chile regime alarms US

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration is concerned by reports that Britain is considering the sale of Jaguar jets, air-to-surface missiles and a guided-missile destroyer to the military Government in Chile.

The United States fears that the sale of sophisticated military equipment to General Augusto Pinochet's regime could thwart attempts by the new civilian Government of President-elect Raúl Alfonsín in Argentina, Chile's traditional rival, to institutionalize democratic rule when it takes office formally on December 10.

In particular, it is feared that an arms buildup by Chile, together with the continued British military presence in the Falkland Islands, will make it difficult for President Alfonsín to curb the power of Argentina's military leaders, as he has vowed to do.

The Americans are also upset by the fact that Mrs Margaret Thatcher seems ready to supply offensive weapons to one of the most repressive military regimes in South America while vigorously opposing United States plans to resume arms supplies to the new Government in Buenos Aires.

British officials have maintained their traditional reticence about the arms talks with the Chilean Government. However, Mr John Lee, the Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, confirmed recently in the Commons that negotiations with Chile for the

sale of HMS *Antrim* "were continuing", although no agreement had yet been reached.

The *Antrim* is a 6,300-ton guided-missile destroyer which saw service in the Falklands campaign and was deployed off Grenada during last month's US invasion.

According to reports in the United States, put out by the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a Washington-based pressure group on Latin America, Britain is negotiating with Chile for the sale of 12 Jaguar fighter-interceptor aircraft and an unspecified number of Sea Eagle air-to-surface missiles. The Jaguars are in the process of being decommissioned by the RAF and replaced by the new Tornado aircraft.

The Anglo-French Jaguar is more sophisticated than any aircraft in the Argentine Air Force except for its French-built Mirages.

The Sea Eagle missiles are comparable to the Exocets which Argentina used to such great effect against British vessels during the Falklands war.

Britain has for long been a leading supplier of arms to Chile. Earlier this year Britain sold 12 aging Hawker Hunters and three Canberras to the Santiago Government. Talks were also held last summer about the possible sale of the aircraft carrier HMS *Hermes* to Chile, but these proved abortive.

Salvador massacre puts aid in jeopardy

From John Carlson, San Salvador

With the right-wing death-squad activity escalating and evidence last week of an army massacre of defenceless civilians, the American Ambassador in El Salvador has given warning that respect for human rights is a condition for the US Government's continued endorsement of economic and military aid.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Thomas Pickering said that the leaders of the death squads were playing a game of Russian roulette with the aid. Massacres and death-squad killings, should they persist, could lead to "radical change" in US policy towards El Salvador.

Reporters discovered evidence last week that an American-trained army battalion had massacred at least 20, and possibly as many as 118, men, women and children. Through the *New York Times*, the American embassy recently implicated leading members of El Salvador's security forces and high-ranking military officers in the running of the death squads.

With an average of 200 ritual killings a month in the past three years, the death squads have now set their sights on rural leaders and literacy instructors. The so-called Secret Anti-communist Brigade recently threatened the lives of

people some of the time, but you can't terrorize all of the people of the time. The left would gain immeasurably, winning massive strong popular support in the country," Mr Pickering said.

East Africa pact agreed on fugitives

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have agreed not to harbour fugitive criminals from their neighbours as part of a new goodwill agreement intended to improve relations and enhance the security of all three governments.

The decision was overshadowed by an agreement last week on sharing the financial assets and debts of the former East African Community, and by the reopening of the Kenya-Tanzania border which had been closed since 1977. But Tanzania is reported here to have already handed over the two self-confessed leaders of last year's attempted coup in Kenya.

Sergeant Pancras Okumu and Private Hezekiah Ochuka fled to Tanzania in a hijacked Air Force aircraft when the coup failed in August last year, and were later granted political asylum.

In return, Kenya is reported to have handed over a former Tanzanian airline pilot, Hattie Maghee, who escaped from prison in Tanzania earlier this year after being charged with treason arising from an alleged plot to overthrow President Nyerere.

Australian uproar over Premier-spy book

From Tony Dubourdieu, Melbourne

The allegation that Mr Harold Holt, the Australian Prime Minister who disappeared while swimming off Portsea, near Melbourne, in 1967, spied for China has caused a furor in Australia and brought a number of swift and categorical denials.

The allegation is contained in a book by Mr Anthony Grey, the former Reuter correspondent imprisoned in China for two years during the Cultural Revolution. It is to be published in Britain today and later in Australia.

Mr Grey alleges that Mr Holt did not drown in 1967, but that he was taken by two Chinese frogmen, picked up by a waiting submarine at a pre-arranged spot and taken to China.

The story broke when *The*

Age in Melbourne published a front-page story on Saturday. The newspaper claimed that the informant for the book was Commander Ronald Mervyn Titcombe, the former Australian naval officer who left the Navy in 1968 and then engaged in a number of different business ventures.

Senator Gareth Evans, the Federal Attorney-General, said that he had information that Commander Titcombe had resigned from the Royal Australian Navy in 1968.

He also said: "On the basis of assurances given to me by the director-general of ASIO, I can deny categorically that Harold Holt was ever investigated by ASIO."

"The whole tale seems to be straight out of fruit cake land."

Obote to spend £125m reviving the economy

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi

President Obote of Uganda, who is also his country's Finance Minister, announced at the weekend a revised £125m two-year programme for reviving the economy.

He outlined the plan - revision of one drawn up last year - to leaders of the Uganda People's Congress in Kampala.

Tighter control of spending coupled with increased efficiency in agriculture and industry are proposed. Uganda is trying to move more exports and imports by rail, rather than road, to save money, and is encouraging industries to use electricity from the country's hydro-electric resources rather than imported oil. Non-essential imports will be restricted.



Prize prisoner: Mr Bernard Coard, the former Deputy Prime Minister under Mr Maurice Bishop, in his cell at Richmond Hill prison in Grenada.

Palme says friend let him down

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Mr Olaf Palme, Sweden's Socialist Prime Minister, faced a barrage of criticism yesterday because of his handling of a growing scandal surrounding Mr Ove Rainer, his former Minister of Justice.

Mr Rainer was forced to resign 10 days ago after allegations of massive tax evasion. These were made by the trade union-owned evening newspaper *Aftonbladet*.

A bitter Mr Palme accepted the resignation of his friend "with regret" but praised his abilities as a minister, described him as "a real and honest human being" and promptly appointed him a High Court judge.

After further revelations concerning two £100,000 loans made to him by a state-owned bank of which he was a director, Mr Rainer announced on Friday that he could not accept the appointment as a judge.

Mr Palme admitted at a weekend press conference that he had made a "a serious mistake" and revised his evaluation of Mr Rainer. "I am very disappointed in him," he said.

South Africa is not as black as it is painted. Or as white. It is a country of many races.

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This means more opportunities, better working conditions and higher pay for Blacks. And the Government is actively promoting the training of the total work force to enable each individual to raise his earning capacity and job status.

Between 1970 and 1980, the Black population's share of total personal incomes increased from about 22% to 30% - a sizeable redistribution in only ten years.

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and are changing at an ever-increasing rate. The future is exciting because we have the people, the dedication and a buoyant economy to enable us to keep on providing opportunities and improving the quality of life of all our people.

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HAS THE USSR
DEPLOYED A NEW
WEAPONS SYSTEM
IN THE BALTIC?

Read Edward Top's book
Submarine U-137

A QUARTET ORIGINAL

SPECTRUM

Curiosity and an acute observation of life have driven Muriel Spark to become one of our great novelists. Nicholas Shakespeare discovers that this curiosity once led her in a different direction, when, during the war, she was recruited by British Intelligence to work in a subversive "German" radio station

Suffering and the vital Spark

Muriel Spark was once asked by a friend what stopped them both from committing suicide like so many people they knew. "Curiosity," she replied. "We want to know what happens next." At 65 this quality shows no sign of deserting one of our greatest living novelists – one who grows more distinguished with her omission from each succeeding list of the Book Marketing Council.

She was in London last week to record a rare television interview having just completed a new novel. Fresh off the cross-Channel ferry after driving from her home in Italy, where she has lived since 1966, she was full of an incident at sea. A small, bird-like Scot, she has something of the sparrow in her movement and expression; something, sometimes, of the writer's widow.

"A message came over the intercom for the purser to meet a man from Special Branch. Of course, I was there before anyone else. I'm not a reporter, but I'm nosy. I wouldn't like not to know." The case for disturbance was "a very jolly black man who was later released." She shrugged, bit the end of her spectacles and smiled. "Obviously

Some 40 years ago, fresh off a troopship from Africa, where her marriage had gone sour, Muriel Spark was recruited for her inquiring mind by British Intelligence and sent to Woburn Abbey. "We were supposed to be a German radio station, broadcasting subversive material to their troops. We worked with German prisoners who had ratted – communists, aristocrats and boys who just wanted better rations. I used to take them for walks

and they would teach me German. The first word they made me learn was 'erotic'."

"Anyway, they were broadcasting for us as loyal Germans, telling how Britain was having to employ Italian interpreters because so many Italians had been captured on the Western Front. It was absolute nonsense. We were nowhere near the Western Front." Another report revealed how Hitler had had his pants burned off in the bomb attempt on his life. "It fascinated me because it's very much the way one writes novels. A bit of fact. A bit of truth."

Strangely enough, her career as a writer began with an article after the war for the jewelry magazine *Argentor*. "I was fascinated by the decorations in Renaissance paintings and did a feature on the Order of the Golden Fleece. Incredibly, the *Evening Standard* picked it up. Opening the paper one day I saw an article saying how good my piece was and I said maybe I can write." Her first full-length book was a study of Mary Shelley in 1951. "I was interested in Frankenstein, and it was the anniversary of her death. Now I think she's terribly dreary. I can identify more with the writer than the writer's widow.

Not until 1957, three years after becoming a Roman Catholic, did she publish her first novel. "At first I drew the line at novels. I felt they were a lazy way of writing poetry. Then Macmillan asked me if I would do one and Graham Greene gave me the money to do it." The result was *The Comforters*, named after "the comforters" in the Book of Job.

Sixteen novels later, Muriel Spark continues to think of herself as "a



Muriel Spark: I'm nosy. I wouldn't like not to know

going concern." She feels the world is newly created every day; each day she looks at it in the same dry-eyed way. "I have a great desire to make people smile – not laugh, but smile. Laughter is too aggressive. People bare their teeth." In 26 years her method of writing, like what she writes about, has changed little. "I get sent exercise books by the gross from a place in Edinburgh, just like I had as a schoolgirl – with 72 pages and a spring spine.

I wait until I have a kind of caterpillar curled up in my mind. I write the title, my name and Chapter One. Then I start. I like to have the title, which I repeat through the book like a refrain. The rest I make up as I go along." Did the "caterpillar" curl

"Mainly a theme. If a character, it must be someone indomitable who will not change whatever circumstances you put in their way. It has to be a person of sufficient importance so one cares about their tragedy. Art is not so democratic. One really doesn't care about people who haven't enough magnitude – by that I mean spiritual magnitude."

How much were her characters drawn from herself? "Flaubert said: 'Madame Bovary, c'est moi.' I know what he means. It's a potentiality rather than oneself one recognizes in them, but they have to be a bit of you or you wouldn't know what you were talking about." Did she have a favourite novel? "The one I've just finished. It's called *The Only Problem*. To my mind it's my most important.

I'd be quite happy if it was the last book I lived to write."

The Only Problem, published next year, is a modern sexual and theological comedy which asks: how a benevolent creator can permit the unspeakable suffering of this world. Set in France, it centres on a rich Canadian who is writing a monograph on the Book of Job, and his beautiful, unpredictable wife who leaves him over the theft of some chocolates. *The Only Problem* is suffering. Life would be very dull without suffering. Life is suffering. The novel completes a fascination with the Book of Job which dates from the early 1950s when she attempted a treatise on the subject. "I don't know how it got into the Bible because God comes out so badly."

Her own position in the Catholic Church is similarly unorthodox. "The

MOREOVER
Miles Kington

Putting his stamp on history

People who have very important jobs

No. 15: A man who fixes postage stamps for new countries

Most observers were taken by surprise when the Turkish half of Cyprus suddenly declared independence, not to Sterling Gibbons, the postage stamp man, who had been out there for six days in advance.

"You sort of get a nose for these things after a while," he says. "I can smell a new, emerging country up to three months in advance of most people, and I slip out there to get in touch with the next government. Often they don't realize just how important stamps are. These newly created countries are usually obsessed with setting their own nuclear deterrent or joining the EEC, when their first priority should always be getting a decent set of stamps out. Partly so they can write to each other, but mostly to get some cash. Stamps are a big earner from day one."

New governments are often very good at making explosive devices or living rough in the bush, but have very little experience of designing and issuing a set of stamps. That's where Gibbons comes in. He can tell them what colours to use, what sort of pictures to put on the front of paper, and the manner of a quick, cheap printer in SE14.

"You'd be surprised how many of them only want to put their own pictures on stamps, and it takes me a while to persuade them that a portrait series of scruffy Castro lookalikes coming out of the bush isn't going to sell to the printers. This lot in north Cyprus are brighter than average, though – after all, they've already been running the place for quite a while – and I've persuaded them to go in for a lucrative anniversary issue."

Anniversary issues are big money in the stamp world, especially as you are not restricted to events in your own country. It's quite common to find small islands in the Pacific commemorating something like Kipling's birth, or the invention of the pressure cooker.

"I tried to persuade the Turks to do an issue on Dylan Thomas's thirtieth anniversary, but they reckoned that Radio 4 had already done it to death. Besides, they had a look at his poetry and couldn't make head or tail of it, and between you and me I'm not surprised. Anyway, we were in a bit of an impasse situation until it turned out that half the new cabinet were jazz fans, so now we're doing a set of Django Reinhardt stamps, as he died just over 30 years ago. It's going to look very nice, I think, especially as some of the stamps have got the young Stephane Grappelli on, and his albums still sell very well."

Printing has been held up because no final decision has been taken on what the new country should be called. Sterling Gibbons firmly squashed a proposal to call it Sitcom, which is apparently a local dialect word for freedom. It's for advice like that that his presence is so widely valued.

"Sometimes when the people are very inexperienced, they get me in on everything. I went out to one of these African countries not so long ago just to do the stamps and ended up being offered the post of foreign secretary. Very nice, but of course I had to refuse, as we've got to remain impartial in the stamp world. I believe the post went eventually to a bloke who had only come out to help them to get into the World Cup. Half the time they only go independent in order to get into the World Cup anyway. That and the Miss World Contest and the Eurovision Song Contest, if they're near enough to Europe."

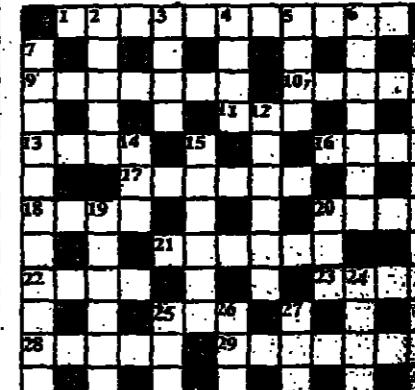
And which bit of the world is going independent next?

"That would be telling, wouldn't it? Let's just say it's not a million miles from the bit of Afghanistan that Russia can't reach. Meanwhile, I'm hoping to land the big Hongkong contract."

Meaning?

"The big closing down, everything-must-go issue, old boy."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 207)



ACROSS:

- 1 Cartoon cat and mouse (3,3,5)
- 2 Uncultivated Australian (5)
- 3 Greenland inhabitants (7)
- 4 Perform (4)
- 5 Churchill's Foreign Secretary (6)
- 6 Mischiefous (7)
- 7 Base above (11)
- 8 Peavay (11)
- 9 Summit (4)
- 10 Perform (4)
- 11 Go brown (3)
- 12 Neal (6)
- 13 Pavement edge (4)
- 14 Small piece (3)
- 15 Reference (6)
- 16 Temporary substitute (7)
- 17 Prisoner (6)
- 18 Failed to win (4)
- 19 Ill-tempered (6)
- 20 Kangaroo meat, hides and other products are big business and exports, particularly to the United States, are thriving (11)
- 21 Weep (5)
- 22 Parrot (5)
- 23 Prepare (3)
- 24 Not (4)
- 25 Black African (5)
- 26 Metal (4)
- 27 Walk heavily (4)
- 28 Rought (11)

DOWN:

- 1 Girl friend (4)
- 2 Aardvark (5)
- 3 Perform (4)
- 4 Perform (4)
- 5 Churchill's Foreign Secretary (6)
- 6 Mischiefous (7)
- 7 Base above (11)
- 8 Peavay (11)
- 9 Summit (4)
- 10 Perform (4)
- 11 Go brown (3)
- 12 Neal (6)
- 13 Pavement edge (4)
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- 26 Metal (4)
- 27 Walk heavily (4)
- 28 Rought (11)

Solution to Saturday's prize crossword will appear on Saturday. Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

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'Vampire' birds

Surely one of the most bizarre adaptations ever recorded on an island (or anywhere else) is the behaviour of the "vampire finches" of Wolf Island, about 80 miles north-west of the main Galapagos group. Although the apparently unique blood-drinking habits of the sharp-beaked ground finch *Geospiza difficilis septentrionalis* had been known since 1964, until last November its activities had never been filmed.

An account of a 12-day filming expedition to the island appears in the current issue of *Noticias de Galapagos*, journal of the Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Isles. Friedman and Heide Koster found their first "vampires" at work on the third day: "Riding on the lower back of a booby and clinging to the large flight feathers of its folded wings, the finch repeatedly buries its beak deep into the formerly white feathers of the 'elbow', now distinctly marked red by exuding blood. Watching from within a couple of yards, we can clearly see the blood being sipped into the closed beak of the finch as if through a drinking straw."

The finches, the authors discovered later, were also adept at stealing and eating the eggs of other species, working in teams to push the egg away from the nest. Once the egg had broken, however, the team spirit would collapse in a "feeding frenzy".

The authors were surprised that most of the boobies did not react more vigorously against the finches, although when larger

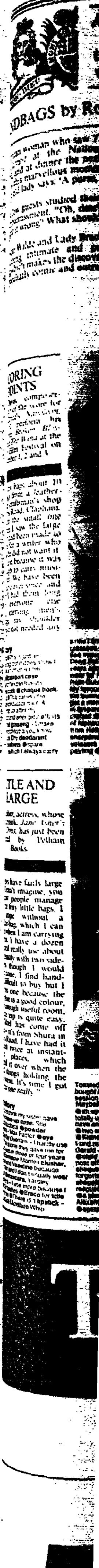
Culling overkill



Australia, an island the size of a continent, is naturally a paradise for any island ecologist. Of its most famous marsupials, the kangaroo and wallaby, there are 37 species throughout Oceania. The red, eastern grey and western grey kangaroos are the subjects of controversy at the moment because confusion over culling policies has raised fears of "a free-for-all overkill", in the words of the World Wildlife Fund.

Aerial surveys are in progress in an attempt to compile more reliable population data; in the meantime, "cases of inhumane killing methods" have been reported and bitterly criticized. The state organizations involved are not insensitive to the humane issues but must also take account of the principle of sustainable utilization of marketable wildlife, a principle endorsed by the World Conservation Strategy, WWF notes. Kangaroo meat, hides and other products are big business and exports, particularly to the United States, are thriving.

Tony Samstag





EDINBURGH DIARY

Taking the high road

Attention in Scotland's capital has turned to the Calton Hill, graced since the 1840s by what looks like the ruin of a Greek temple. It is in fact no ruin but an unfinished copy of the Parthenon built after Waterloo as national monument and Church to the Mighty Dead.

Then the money ran out, which is fine for those who prefer their Greek temples with holes in them. In 1849 Lord Cockburn had said: "No one can doubt that one day the Parthenon will be completed". Perhaps. Two hundred people attending a conference earlier this month heard the suggestion that a glass box might be inserted within the columns.

What would happen in the box is uncertain. A restaurant? A museum? Who can tell. The hill itself, though offering one of the finest views of Edinburgh, is scruffy with odd concrete huts, litter and parked cars. At night it is said to be a gay rendezvous.

Oliver Barrett, Secretary of the Cockburn Association, joint-organizers of the conference favours "a cautious approach". He would like the hill tidied up and more used, with no cars on top except for those of the disabled and astronomers using the observatory (why can't astronomers walk?). Anyway the district council is converting the observatory's city dome to attract tourists with a *camera lucida* and closed-circuit TV.

All change

It is said that the Scottish vice-chancellors, having to a man opposed devolution, have now fallen out of love with the University Grants Committee and will seek autonomy. Curiously, this is just what the right-wing Adam Smith Institute proposed in their Omega Report on Scottish Policy.

Pride and prejudice

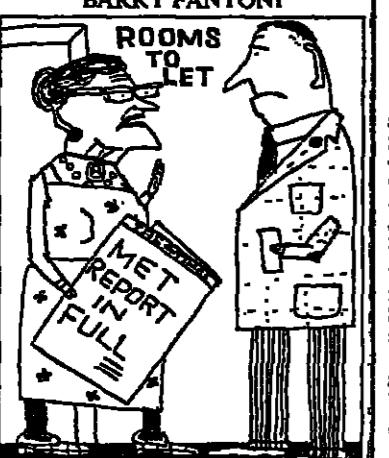
"Scottish pride" has long been a slogan for the Scottish Milk Marketing Board's products. Now it has been chosen by Dryburgh's for a new lager. An attempt to prevent the brewers using the name failed in the Court of Session when Lord Davidson refused an interim injunction. With judicial common sense he decided Scots could tell lager from butter. He quoted a colleague in a previous case: "The only person who could be confused was a moron in a hurry."

Still, one rum note was struck. It was stated that "Thirty-six thousand pounds-worth of cans of lager were already intricately packaged for the Christmas market and could not be undone". That should cause frustration in Rose Street and places where they drink.

Off camera

Another form of Scottish pride was restored at Murrayfield last week. The absence of TV cameras meant that argument over Bernie Fraser's first try depends on memory, not an action-replay. Most Scots thought Mexico should have been penalized for passing of the ground after a tackle. If Dodi had kicked the goal and Fraser's try been disallowed, the final score would have been 28-19. It has a faint note of unreality. Still, Jim Telfer, this summer's Lions coach, felt he had proved "half a point anyway".

BARRY FANTONI



"Yes, but have you any references apart from being a policeman?"

Testimonial

The surprise publishing success of the season is the late Professor William L Lorimer's translation of the New Testament into Scots. Canongate-Southside are reprinting, having sold 2,500 copies in a fortnight. Director Stephanie Wolfe-Murray says: "On publication day Thain's bookshop came back for 50 copies at lunchtime and another 100 in the afternoon." Only the Devil speaks standard English.

Off course

Edinburgh is divided over the proposed western relief road, intended to divert traffic from Glasgow away from the village of Corstorphine. Protestors claim it will merely suck heavy traffic into the west end of the city. "It is part of a total package designed to improve the environmental amenity of a very sensitive area of our capital city," says District Councillor Kathleen Macrae.

The doughty and charming councillor owns the Robert Louis Stevenson house in Heriot Row, but the "very sensitive area" is neither the popular west end nor the lovely new town, but Corstorphine, which she happens to represent on the district council. Ho, ho, the plot thickens, the "total package" evidently being that used in the children's party game "pass the parcel".

Allan Massie

An imperfect but vital alliance

by Helmut Schmidt

The former Chancellor and SPD leader, right, appeals to his party to consider the risks West Germany would run by rejecting cruise and Pershing missiles



While recognizing the failures of both superpowers, I still believe firmly in the dual-track decision of December 1979 - not because I was its supposed "inventor", not only because I myself worked on the indispensable connection between the elements of deployment and arms talks, but because I still see it as an effective instrument for the restoration of balance through the limitation and step-by-step removal of the nuclear weapons in Europe.

Two conversations with Leonid Brezhnev deeply impressed me: he spoke of the suffering of the last war, of the sacrifices of his people and those of our own family. His wish for peace was clear to me. At the same time I have not forgotten the Brezhnev doctrine. And since then, military thinking has had more influence on the Soviet leadership.

The Helsinki Agreement in 1975 was up till now the high point of the double strategy of deterrence plus cooperation with the Soviet Union and détente.

The concept of "containment" of the late 1940s had at last been realized, but had however been added to in an important way.

The West accepted in Helsinki that coexistence of states would in no way mean ideological coexistence - in other words, the Russians were not offering a halt to Soviet infiltration all over the world.

I can understand the worries of the Soviet military leadership about the Germans, Americans and Chinese, but I cannot in any way accept them as reasonable. These three compounded threats however do not suffice to explain their armament; that is explained also by Russia's inherent expansionist tendency. The Andropov leadership basically does not differ in this.

The Russians do not want to understand that their persecution complex, their security complex, their striving for absolute security leads to ever more insecurity for Europeans, for Americans, Chinese, Japanese and so on. They also do not understand that Europeans, Americans, Chinese and Japanese can in no way accept this growing insecurity. The Russians have seen that the West does not always react as one to threats. They hope to be able to separate the West European allies and the US psychologically and politically or even to play them off against each other. Naturally, we

Germans are one of the main targets of Soviet propaganda.

The exaggerated build-up of Soviet SS20s was a grave mistake. The rejection of the "walk-in-the-woods" formula by the US and Soviet negotiators Nitze and Kvitsinsky was a second mistake. But the walk in the woods, an acceptable compromise between two irreconcilable negotiating positions, was also accompanied by mistakes by the Americans. First, they turned down this compromise. Secondly, they did this without informing their European allies and the countries that were accepting missiles, and failing then to consult them. For instance, in the last ten weeks until my leaving office I learnt nothing of this. There is no excuse for the failure to inform and consult the European allies. It is a grave violation of the agreed procedure of the dual-track decision.

I must say that this mistake disturbs me, as do also ways of speaking about the pre-war phase or the possibility of conducting a limited nuclear war. Some speeches of US politicians on the conservative wing of the Republican Party which were meant to give the Soviet Union must assume that such threats will be taken as directed to the American systems in Western Europe, so that the US will therefore be automatically involved.

For me, it was also and remains clear that there should never be so many US systems stationed in Western Europe that anyone in Washington could seriously come to think that a nuclear confrontation

Extracted from a speech to the SPD conference at the weekend.

It is said that the Scottish vice-chancellors, having to a man opposed devolution, have now fallen out of love with the University Grants Committee and will seek autonomy. Curiously, this is just what the right-wing Adam Smith Institute proposed in their Omega Report on Scottish Policy.

Pride and prejudice

"Scottish pride" has long been a slogan for the Scottish Milk Marketing Board's products. Now it has been chosen by Dryburgh's for a new lager. An attempt to prevent the brewers using the name failed in the Court of Session when Lord Davidson refused an interim injunction.

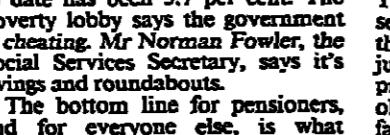
With judicial common sense he decided Scots could tell lager from butter. He quoted a colleague in a previous case: "The only person who could be confused was a moron in a hurry."

Still, one rum note was struck. It was stated that "Thirty-six thousand pounds-worth of cans of lager were already intricately packaged for the Christmas market and could not be undone". That should cause frustration in Rose Street and places where they drink.

Off camera

Another form of Scottish pride was restored at Murrayfield last week. The absence of TV cameras meant that argument over Bernie Fraser's first try depends on memory, not an action-replay. Most Scots thought Mexico should have been penalized for passing of the ground after a tackle. If Dodi had kicked the goal and Fraser's try been disallowed, the final score would have been 28-19. It has a faint note of unreality. Still, Jim Telfer, this summer's Lions coach, felt he had proved "half a point anyway".

BARRY FANTONI



"Yes, but have you any references apart from being a policeman?"

Testimonial

The surprise publishing success of the season is the late Professor William L Lorimer's translation of the New Testament into Scots. Canongate-Southside are reprinting, having sold 2,500 copies in a fortnight. Director Stephanie Wolfe-Murray says: "On publication day Thain's bookshop came back for 50 copies at lunchtime and another 100 in the afternoon." Only the Devil speaks standard English.

Off course

Edinburgh is divided over the proposed western relief road, intended to divert traffic from Glasgow away from the village of Corstorphine. Protestors claim it will merely suck heavy traffic into the west end of the city. "It is part of a total package designed to improve the environmental amenity of a very sensitive area of our capital city," says District Councillor Kathleen Macrae.

The doughty and charming councillor owns the Robert Louis Stevenson house in Heriot Row, but the "very sensitive area" is neither the popular west end nor the lovely new town, but Corstorphine, which she happens to represent on the district council. Ho, ho, the plot thickens, the "total package" evidently being that used in the children's party game "pass the parcel".

Allan Massie

Today sees the operation of the most expensive ratchet in the machinery of the welfare state in an inflationary age - a general rise in that mixed bag of old age, "insurance" and basic welfare benefits which we know as social security.

Across the country state pensioners will go to the Post Office to find they are £1.20 a week better off. Child benefit, paid indiscriminately to rich and poor alike, increases by the price of a McDonald's milk shake and bag of chips. For an unemployed school-leaver (provided he is cooperating with the Youth Training Scheme) state benefit increases from £15.80 to £16.50.

Today is the day of inflation magic for those of the country's 9.6 million old-age pensioners who depend on the state and for all of the seven million for whom supplementary benefit is the primary source of income. (In the mealy-mouth speak of Britain's social security system "supplementary" benefit supplements nothing unless it is earnings from the black economy; for most recipients it is rock-hard basic benefit.)

The arguments this week will be about the arithmetic of inflation. State pensions (some pensioners with no other resources receive "supplementary" pensions which go up by a different fraction) rise by 3.7 per cent. Inflation in the 12 months to date has been 5.7 per cent. The poverty lobby says the government is cheating. Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, says it's a swing and roundabout.

The bottom line for pensioners, and for everyone else, is what happens to prices in 1984. If

inflation is going downwards once again then the November percentage will look disadvantageous; if Mr Nigel Lawson is wrong, the purchasing power of the elderly is cut.

Other benefits are increasing by different amounts. Child benefit increases by 11 per cent and unemployment benefit (paid to those who have made National Insurance contributions and for a limited period) goes up by 8 per cent. Both these adjustments, enforced thanks to pressure from Tory wets, owe much to the peculiar sense of relative justice that suffuses the social security world. Most judgments are made in relation to previous benefit levels, rarely to objective measures of need or to fairness between different groups of beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, supplementary benefit increases by a fraction - 4.3 per cent - bigger than for pensions. This is because officialdom uses a price index for which excludes housing costs which are treated separately, and as Mr Lawson showed in Thursday's statement, less equally.

These varying percentages, the overlapping benefits, the harshness of the several traps hurting low-income workers on the margins of social security, demonstrate for the umpteenth time that the system is a jungle.

There were alarms and excursions earlier this year when Mr Lawson in his softening-up tactic allowed that unemployment benefit and short-term supplementary benefit might be cut. But Mr Fowler has now got his £1.5 billion increment and the

short run, in order to simplify.

Now if Mr Fowler turns to the new right and its think tanks for advice on what to do about the benefits jungle, he gets prescriptions that are either administratively unworkable or politically beyond the pale: the advocacy of the insurance principle to cover unemployment ignores both the real world incidence of unemployment and ability to pay.

So the Government is left, today, with a social security system costing £35 billion unchanged in its entirety from the system inherited from Labour in 1979 and showing every sign of passing unchanged to weigh down the finances of whichever administration succeeds Mrs Thatcher's.

David Walker

with the Soviet Union could be limited to Europe.

We Social Democrats should not isolate ourselves in the opposition. We should in particular take into consideration the views of governments in London and Paris. If anyone in Europe can understand and satisfy our special German concerns then it is them.

The Alliance with France is of vital importance for our people.

We should look at how many young people in America today are able to demonstrate their fears, demands and criticisms - quite different from young people in the other part of Germany. That would not have been possible without our American friends. Whoever can demonstrate today owes this freedom in large measure to the United States. Where Soviet models rule, such a thing is not conceivable.

There is even a meta-committee

vision of even worse, leaving their way through a tabloid newspaper.

A political party that finds the floating electors will not frost to its local meetings has only one alternative. It must organize a coherent national campaign to present a message that can be followed across the living-room door, which is precisely what Labour failed to do last time round.

Labour's daily election campaign committee was so large that I have found nobody who is quite sure who was entitled to attend. Legend has it that it was the *Third Day*, before anyone realized that Michael Foot's detective was in attendance, which must be the only recorded occasion on which the Special Branch assisted in the election strategy of the Labour Opposition.

For reasons of economy Labour was obliged to conduct an interesting experiment for a modern political party of attempting to cope without a broadcasting officer in the run-up to a general election. It is unlikely that the other political parties will be encouraged by the results to follow suit.

Here we stumble on a curious phenomenon that played a mischievous part in misleading Labour about the extent of its support during the last Parliament. I have attended or addressed public meetings for a couple of decades ever since, as a troublesome teenager, I was dispatched by the constituency agent to heckle the members of the sitting Tory MP. At the time I was naively by this distinctive responsibility and only realized years later, when I caught myself trying the same dodge to keep me out of the Labour committee room.

Two trends emerge from my historical experience of the public meeting as a communication form. The first is that in the 1980s there has been a perceptible lift in the numbers willing to turn out to such events. The second, which is that overwhelmingly those turning out are already committed supporters, or the odd karmazek heckler.

In the two years prior to the general election I reckon I must have addressed in aggregate more than 100,000 individuals at public meetings on nuclear disarmament. If I am allowed to throw in the odd Hyde Park rally I can get up to half a million. I now suspect that I would be lucky if during that time I addressed more than a few hundred electors who actually needed persuasion of conversion. The remainder of the floating electorate were sitting in the impregnable security of their sitting rooms watching television.

Margaret Thatcher did not just buck that trend by obtaining a second term but also created a new consensus among Labour that winning power is a task that will take a full Parliament. Hence last week's meeting of the Campaign Committee. The next general election began last Tuesday.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Robin Cook

How to preach to the unconverted

Last week Labour's new Campaign Strategy Committee held its first meeting. In itself the advent of another Labour Party committee is scarcely remarkable. The People's Party has a prodigious appetite for committee work that can be satisfied only by a steady supply of fresh study groups, working parties and executive committees.

There is even a meta-committee plane at which coordinating committees and liaison committees meet to figure out what everyone else is up to. The significance of last week's event lies in what it conveys about the priorities of Labour's new management, and marks a switch in emphasis from the internal elaboration of policy to the external presentation of policy.

Campaigning is a term which until recently retained a doggedly local connotation. Canvassing and leafleting are deeply embedded in the political consciousness as the traditional form of communication. Nor is any leaflet campaign quite complete without notice of the public meeting.

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Now did they at the time. By contrast, the Conservatives ran a professional marketing campaign planned with meticulous detail down to the choice of two shades of blue as the backdrop to the daily press conference - a dark blue for Mrs Thatcher's sombre moods and a light blue for her more optimistic moments. Ironically, the Conservatives demonstrated a total commitment to central planning, while Labour relied on free enterprise by its activists.

It may be a trifle unfair to blame the late Robert MacKenzie for the failings of Labour's national campaign but, at bottom, the indifference of both its luminaries and activists rested on the assumption that there is no triumphalist attitude. And yet, when I was invited to the Conservative conference at the end of last year I was struck by the visual image of the Swingeonette, led too, many to believe that the first law of electoral support was "what goes down, must come up again".

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The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Anne Sofer

Who will manage the melting pot?

The Vietnamese lady came to see me first about a job her husband was applying for. He had just finished a course as a fitter and had the employment application form from the local council. One of the questions was: "Are you related to a member or senior officer of the council?" Intended as a way of checking nepotism, it had been understood as the reverse. What could they put in?

The next time



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

The enthronement of an Archbishop of York is an occasion of consequence in the Church of England. As Dr John Habgood said in his sermon it is a great act of worship. It expresses in words and ritual - and not least (by no means least) in music - something of the glory of God. It is a celebration. Indeed all the panoply and procedure of the affair, signified to some extent by the presence in the congregation of the Prime Minister, and by the all embracing antiquity and beauty of York Minster, in which the service was held, testify to the centrality of Anglicanism in the culture and history of England.

Dr Habgood said that it is a reassertion of public faith. Public faith according to the new Archbishop, is about the foundations. That is questionable emphasis to lay at the start of his Archbishopsric. In a moment the believer is in a numbers game - of which some Christian denominations are much guiltier than others - in which religious affiliation is validated simply by the fact that so many others seem to be of the same persuasion, as though one's inner experience needs outward corroboration.

Public faith? Can that really have been the key message of the new Archbishop? It is true he went on to disavow any intention of a "mere puffing up of Christian self-importance." There must be no triumphalism, for sure. And yet. And yet. What can public faith be other than an expression of faith in our institutions, in the cohesion of a society bound by a common tradition and some continuity in its sense of values? In fact, can it be more than an essentially collective emotion in which individuals, be they members of the congregation, sidesmen, choristers or mere onlookers, listeners, and fellow celebrants, in the great wide Anglican communion, are swept up in a seductive ritual and public act of devotion which in all truth cannot be presented as the sure foundation of any kind of true religious faith?

"We don't want just to be individuals. We want to belong to a society which helps us to be what, at our deepest and best, we know we ought to be," said Dr Habgood. Society, in other words, is to be Dr Habgood's foundation for our faith. The judgment of others is not in itself an absolute standard of value. It is a pointer, but it must be the individual through reflection, through self-searching, who reaches the ultimate ethical decision. The moral criterion is self-consciousness. Was it not Peter whom Christ made the rock and foundation of his Church - Peter, who lacked self-control and was fickle in character and hardly exemplary by society's contemporary norms? Does that not suggest that the true foundation must be the individual who is conscious of the collisions within him, rather than somebody who is cast

permanently as the protagonist of good?

Every individual needs renewal from those inner conflicts, but not by pressing them upon his neighbours under the cloak of Christian love, or a sense of social responsibility, or any which merely conceals an unconscious urge to personal power. In planting his emphasis so firmly in the public dimension of faith, at the expense of the essential privacy and uniqueness of religious experience, Dr Habgood was only reflecting the unfortunate collective tendencies which have taken hold of so much contemporary religious activity from the razzmatazz of papal tours down to the involvement of priests of all denominations in all kinds of political and social pressure groups.

The injunction is not to love thy neighbour. It is to love thy neighbour as thyself. To do that you have to know yourself and be conscious of life's eternal paradoxes which ebb and flow within the individual's spirit. To elevate community religion above man's individual struggle to know and love himself and through that self awareness to know and love his neighbour is achieved only by the suppression of those paradoxes.

It is from that suppression that Christendom, for all its professions of good intent, has been a history of schism, of religious wars, of the burning of heretics, of anathemas and iconoclasm. "I am come not to bring peace, but a sword," said Christ. How wildly has organized religion in His name turned that statement into a territorial and doctrinal battleground rather than a search for ultimate unity based on the recognition of tolerable diversity in man's individual spirit and through him to the diversity of each community. How ironic that Christian missionaries fanned out to preach the Gospel of love to heathens while leaving so many spiritual heathens behind them in Europe.

So long as religion is only public faith and outward form men will fight to codify it. They will rise up to correct it. As Dr Habgood said in his sermon, with approval, they must forever be building and forever pulling down. In those circumstances the religious function will not be experienced within our souls, and nothing of importance will have happened to the spirit. Religious experience is absolute and unique. It cannot be disputed. It cannot be codified or collected. Today's Christians should therefore no longer cling obstinately to a one-sided credo, ignoring the many schisms of their Church and its contradictions, and the attempts to impose dogmatic solutions on matters which are and must remain mysteries of the soul.

Conventional religious education imposes artificial limits on the idea of Christianity. It seeks to specify something which can only be unspecific. The

eternal symbols which have helped man's acceptance of something greater than himself are as old as mankind. They have been translated by Christian ritual into a moment of revelation which, in Christian teaching, suggests that nothing went before. It is as though a cathedral has been built over a pagan temple without the congregation knowing or caring that the pagan temple is still there underneath them. If the mystery is absolute it follows that ritual only helps if it assists mankind to accept the mystery as ineffable. It should help the individual submit to the irrational facts of religious experience. How can they be codified and dogmatized and remain irrational?

It is not therefore a public creed, however impressive, however inspiring, which can lay the foundations for the freedom and autonomy of an individual but that individual's knowledge and awareness of an intensely personal experience which owes nothing to the world of reason or of ritual or society. To try to educate individuals to believe in religion is understandable, but it causes ultimate risks in creating a readiness to believe anything or everything that they do not understand for themselves; and thus as easily and as quickly to disbelieve.

Christians today have to accept that their Church and its public manifestations of faith live in the shadow of 400 years of splits. There is no future in every denomination insisting on its own doctrinal standpoint while hiding behind the Gospel of brotherly love and Christian unity. The only doctrine is that there is a God expressed in many forms, through many languages and symbolised in many rituals. All of them are true. That is no more contradictory than the contradictions of Terullian: "and the Son of God is dead, which is to be believed because it is absurd. And buried. He rose again, which is certain because it is impossible". No rational set of precepts can be built solely on those paradoxes.

The great world religions of which Judaism, Christianity and Islam all spring from a single source, but also Buddhism, have in their own ways accorded man a central place in the ultimate scheme of things. The foundation of that scheme is the spirit. The rites emphasise spiritual renewal, born of the struggle between the opposites of good and evil. With great respect to the new Archbishop it is not a question of anyone not wanting to be "just an individual" in this struggle, preferring the protection of society. We are and will remain individuals. We cannot be otherwise. The spirit of man is not some social endowment. It rages within each individual where the God of love is also the God of war, where light and darkness alternate and intermingle for ever. That is the divine conflict within us. That is the way of the Cross.

Yours faithfully,
S. J. B. LANGDALE, Headmaster,
The Schools, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
November 12.

WHEN A MARRIAGE HAS BROKEN DOWN

Important social issues are raised by the Government's Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, which is to be debated by the House of Lords today.

At present divorce proceedings cannot be started within three years of the date of the marriage unless leave of the court is obtained on the ground that the case is one of exceptional hardship suffered by the petitioner, or exceptional depravity on the part of the respondent. The purpose of the bill is to discourage irresponsible or trial marriages and to provide an external buttress to the stability of marriages during the difficult early years. The Bill now seeks to replace this provision by an absolute bar on petitions for divorce within one year of marriage, without exception.

The main reason for the proposal, which was initially recommended by the Law Commission, is that the present rule works unsatisfactorily and is inconsistent with the policy of our present divorce law, that a marriage which has broken down irretrievably should be dissolved with the minimum bitterness, distress, and humiliation. It requires a spouse seeking leave to petition for divorce within the three year period to make the most unpleasant allegations against his or her partner in order to make out a convincing case. This does nothing to help either party to come to terms with the breakdown of the marriage, or to adopt a conciliatory attitude towards the resolution of problems such as the upbringing of their children.

Would the change make divorce easier? The answer must

be yes. But that is not the real issue. The question is whether the proposal would further undermine the institution of marriage. To a large degree this must depend on the extent to which the present rule still fulfils its original function. It is, in fact, highly doubtful whether it really does discourage people from entering into hasty marriages. There cannot be many people, even nowadays, who marry with one eye on the altar and the other on the divorce court.

Such evidence as there is tends to suggest that the restriction only preserves, for an arbitrary period of time, the legal bond between some couples whose marriage has, in fact, irretrievably broken down. The proposal should therefore not be seen as a new threat to the institution of marriage. It does no more than develop the policy of the Divorce Reform Act 1969.

Viewed from that perspective, the advantages of the proposed change clearly outweigh its disadvantages.

The merits of the proposed changes to the principles governing financial awards after divorce are no less debatable. The present statute requires the court to consider all the circumstances of the case, and then to try to place the parties in the financial position in which they would have been had the marriage not broken down. The statutory objective embodies a principle of life-long support at the standard enjoyed during the marriage. The principle is rooted in the concept of marriage as a life-time union and reflects an earlier law of divorce founded on the doctrine of the matrimonial offence. Now that divorce (and remarriage) is no longer exceptional, and irretrievable break-

Flaws in reform of Oxford entry

From the Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference

Sir, It is the ambition of many of the most intelligent sixth formers in the country to win a place at Oxford or Cambridge. The Dover committee's reforms at Oxford are presumably designed to spread this still more widely.

In so far as they simplify the entrance procedure, they will do. The examinations by which colleges may set their own written tests as part of their interviews, and may express preferences for the E or the N mode of entry, not just college by college but subject by subject, make one wonder how successful they will prove to have been.

Whatever has been achieved is at the expense of sixth-form education as a whole. Because of their pre-eminence, Oxford and Cambridge set standards and influence attitudes. Now Oxford is only to examine sixth formers more than six months before they take their A levels.

It seems a topsy-turvy method of selection. Academically it will favour the early developers, notoriously not always those who prove the soundest or most tenacious scholars in the long run. Socially, it will handicap those who, deprived of a good start at home, are only gradually discovering in sixth forms or sixth-form colleges the excitement of intellectual exploration.

It is also the method most likely to damage the sixth-form curriculum. Just when there are hopes of enabling gifted sixth formers to develop their talents more widely, and so equipping them to play their leading role in society more effectively, Oxford, examining earlier, encourages earlier specialisation.

The non-examined method of entry may appear the obvious answer. But there is merit in separate examining by Oxford and Cambridge, and we must hope that a solution may soon be found which is more beneficial to our best students and more closely linked to the national curriculum which they follow.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER ELLIS, Chairman,
The Headmasters' Conference,
Marlborough College,
Marlborough,
Wiltshire.

November 17.

From the Headmaster of Shrewsbury School

Sir, If Oxford University's decision to abandon the seventh-term entry examination has been taken because the present system is held to be unfair to some candidates then, on the ground of fairness to all university candidates, and to the other universities, should it not now give up its special entrance examination altogether?

Every other British university apart from Cambridge has to select its candidates without recourse to a special exam with results that seem no better or no worse than those of "Oxbridge".

From 1983 an increasing number of boys and girls who want to try for a place at Oxford will in practice have to sit a highly competitive examination, with all the special preparation this involves, some six or seven months before they take their A levels. This appears to many of us to be putting the dubious special status of the Oxford exam before the best interests of the candidates and of the university entry system as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
S. J. B. LANGDALE, Headmaster,
The Schools, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
November 12.

Video violence

From Miss I. Hayes

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Arthur Butterworth (November 16), is confusing fact with fiction. Horror seen in real life by people who have not sought them out have a different psychological effect from horror invented by film-makers for money.

Perverted people watch video nasties for enjoyment and are tempted to imitate them. They are shown how to commit extra cruelties which they themselves

do not experience.

The Bill rightly proposes the removal of the present statutory objective. But something is needed to replace the principle of life-long support. The Bill would require the court to give priority to the welfare of the children in its consideration of all the circumstances (which already happens), and to consider in every case whether it would be "appropriate" to make an order finally terminating the parties' financial obligations towards each other, either at once or after a period of adjustment. That apart, the Bill is quite directionless. Nothing is said about the "clean break" is not appropriate (presumably the majority of cases), nor about how the court is to decide when such an order would be appropriate.

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There must of course be flexibility in this branch of the law, because of the widely varying facts of each case, but there is a real danger that the almost complete lack of guiding principles in the Bill would create widespread uncertainty and inconsistency of practice.

The danger here is particularly acute because the decisions involve the exercise of a judicial discretion and so are rarely appealable. The courts are entitled to more guidance than this from Parliament.

Mr Wassell criticized British

Sound basis for negotiations on Cyprus

From Mr Francis Noel-Baker

Sir, On Tuesday I returned from my forty-fifth visit since Eden sent me to Cyprus to mediate between Makarios and Harding. I visited both sides and met leading Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

Inter alia, we discussed UDI and I warned them, verbally and on paper, against it because it would freeze the present partition, delay talks with Greek Cypriots and disturb mainland Turkey's relations with the Community.

Personally, however, I do not believe that Mr Denktash's declaration has changed much in Cyprus. I have long thought that the UN's "megaphone diplomacy", through inter-communal talks, was doomed to fail.

I am now more than ever convinced that the best hope is a sustained and persistent low profile shuttle mission, without publicity, to sound out the four parties (of whom Ankara and Greek Nicosia are decisive). It could seek to establish the real positions of the parties. If a basis for meaningful negotiations emerged by then, the parties could be invited to meet - not before. If not, no harm will be done.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS NOEL-BAKER,
10 Drayton Gardens, SW10.
November 18.

explain this to her Nato partners or to the other two guarantee powers.

The United States policy of leaving Cyprus on the "back burner" has also proved a failure. Nearly 10 years of separation, with no effective outside power showing willingness to mediate, has served only to make the two communities harder to reconcile.

We are encouraged to note that the Government now seems ready to carry out its duties under the Treaty of Guarantee and, for the sake of peace in the eastern Mediterranean, we implore Greece and Turkey to work seriously with Britain in this initiative.

Yours sincerely,

NICHOLAS BETHELL, Chairman,
ALFRED DURS, Vice-Chairman,
CYRIL D. TOWNSEND, Vice-Chairman,
Friends of Cyprus,
Palace of Westminster, SW1.

November 18.

From Mr Paul Mullins

Sir, Why should the partition of Cyprus not formally be recognized? The Turkish Cypriots will surely be reluctant to ever engage in more than the loosest federation with their fellow Greek islanders, after their own appalling experiences during the long and farcical campaign for Enosis (union with Greece) waged by the EOKA terrorists prior to 1974.

With the island now tranquil because it is divided the best that can be hoped for is in effect two separate states under one federal umbrella - perhaps that of the UN. If there is to be any reconciliation in Cyprus, it must be between two parts of equal standing, and this means that the fictitious nature of Turkish illegality must be cast off. There is past fault on both sides, which the current legal situation does not recognize.

Britain, Greece and Turkey, as guarantors of the 1960 treaty of independence, have a duty to find a practical solution to the Cyprus problem. This sadly must include recognizing that the island is divided for good, and for the better.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL MULLINS,
22 Broadmead Street, N1.
November 16.

From Dr John Triselliotis

Sir, Those who ask whether the Republic of Cyprus will use force to re-unite Cyprus, seem to forget that there are more Turkish mainland soldiers per square mile in Cyprus than the reported number of Russians in Afghanistan.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TRISELLOITIS,
20 Broad Farm Road,
Edinburgh.

November 17.

The Nilsen case

From Professor John Gunn

Sir,

It is incorrect of David Nicholson-Lord (feature, November 5) to equate the Sutcliffe and Nilsen cases. In *R v Sutcliffe* there was unanimous psychiatric evidence that the defendant suffered from severe mental illness and that he fitted well within the criteria established for diminished responsibility under the Homicide Act of 1957.

It was legally correct, but against established practice, and unhelpful for the jury to examine this matter. It would have been more understandable had it been possible to obtain a psychiatrist who disagreed with his colleagues so that a genuine debate of expert opinion could have been put before the jury. As it was, the debate became an unequal battle between psychiatrists and prosecution lawyers. It was no surprise that the prosecution lawyers won.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN GUNN,
Institute of Psychiatry,
De Crespigny Park,
Denmark Hill, SE5.
November 7.

Social justice?

From Mr Daniel Johnson

Sir, It is very much to be doubted whether A. J. Nichols (November 16) is right to diagnose amnesia in Friedrich von Hayek's scepticism about the notion of a "social market economy". Professor Hayek's faculties seem undiminished to many of us and it is especially dangerous even for so fine a historian as Mr Nichols to quote the case of Erhard against him.

Professor Hayek is quoted thus: "May I tell you the story of when I last spoke to Dr Ludwig Erhard? We were alone for a moment and he turned to me and said, 'I hope you don't misunderstand me when I speak of a social market economy (*soziale Marktwirtschaft*). I mean by that that the market economy as such is social, not that it needs to be made social...'"

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL JOHNSON,
14 Ashchurch Terrace, W12
November 16.

Business confidence

From the Chairman of Reed International plc

Sir, In his letter of November 15 Mr Martin Wassell used your leader on the CBI conference for a generalized attack on the "gloom-mongers of the CBI" and the general competence of British managers.

It is true that some employers who spoke at the conference were gloomy for the simple reason that they are not yet seeing any light; those in the building and construction industries being an obvious example. The majority, however, were not gloomy. Indeed, as the recent CBI/BIM survey showed, there is a new spirit of confidence among managers.

THE ARTS

The experience of *Good and Bad at Games*, which opens at the London Film Festival today, has fired William Boyd with enthusiasm for more scriptwriting: interview by John Preston

Photograph of William Boyd by Peter Trewavas

Exploring all the richness of adolescence

The path from novelist to screenwriter can be a tricky one to negotiate. The dialogue that sits happily bolstered by descriptive chunks on the page often sounds lifeless and awkward in front of the cameras. Yet it is a transition that William Boyd, whose novel *An Ice-Cream War* was a leading contender for last year's Booker Prize, has managed with considerable assurance in his first screenplay, *Good and Bad at Games*, which has been directed by Jack Gold and is premiered today at the London Film Festival. It will be shown on Channel 4 on December 8. The script evolved loosely from a story in Boyd's first book, *On the Yankee Station*, about a group of public schoolboys taking fumbling steps in courtship with girls from a neighbouring school. In the film, Boyd cuts back and forth between schooldays and a decade later, showing how received attitudes have remained entrenched and unquestioned, and, in particular, how bullying can leave an ineradicable mark.

Ten years ago stories about

public-school life were an almost extinct breed. Young authors who had been privately educated tended to look shifty and mumble inaudibly when questioned too closely about their privileged backgrounds. As a result, a large slice of adolescent experience went virtually undocumented. It is a gap that Boyd was anxious to fill.

"There seemed to me", he says, "to be an incredible paucity of good writing about adolescent public schoolboys. Considering how many British writers must have been through the public school system, the number of good realistic books, or films or television plays on the subject could be counted on the fingers of one hand. Apart from *If* and Frederic Raphael's *School Play*, we're stuck with *Tom Brown's Schooldays* and *Stalwart* and *Co.* all plucky little chaps and rotters. That's not what it was like at all for me. I wanted to write a script that would conjure up the experience as I remember it. I also wanted to explore that peculiar richness of adolescence. Some people have an

experience at the age of 17 or 18 in terms of prestige and adulation, particularly if they are good at games, which they will never again recapture in their adult lives. So life after school is oddly flat and disappointing."

Boyd was brought up in Nigeria, where his father was a doctor and his mother a teacher. At the age of nine he was sent to prep school in Scotland and thence on to Gordonstoun. He was not a natural, particularly unhappy at school and managed to escape relatively unscathed. But others around him were not quite so lucky. "I remember there was one boy who was hated by literally everyone. I've no idea why, but he had absolutely no friends. I wonder what it must be like for someone like that now, how it must have affected him. The extraordinary thing is that most people, once they've got through it, once they've survived, tend to start looking back rather fondly at it all. But what if someone went slightly mad or had a nervous breakdown? And what if all the time, even years later, he was

still planning to get his own back on the person responsible for making his life hell?"

At 31, and prompted by the success of *An Ice-Cream War*, Boyd has recently taken the plunge and given up his job as a lecturer in English Literature at St Hilda's College, Oxford, to become a full-time writer. With all the fuss surrounding the Booker Prize these days, the experience of having narrowly missed could well induce creative strophypathy for life. Boyd, however, is busier and more productive than ever. Another film script has already been completed and he has just finished the first draft of a new novel, *Stars and Bars*, about an Englishman stranded in a "minute hick town somewhere on the Alabama-Georgia border". Ostensibly it is a far cry from the adolescent brutalities of *Good and Bad at Games*, but, once more, instilled values come under examination in times of crisis.

"It's a serious comic novel. The main character is fleeing English attitudes and states of mind. He

thinks that in America he will find the answers, the antidote, but all these dreadful things happen to him and he has to fall back on the reserves which his culture, his nationality and his upbringing have provided him with. The crux is whether those reserves stand the test or let him down terribly."

Clutching superstitiously on to the edge of the coffee table in front of him until he realizes it is made of chrome and not wood, Boyd says that he hopes he will be able to continue dividing his time between writing novels and scripts. Certainly, the experience of watching *Good and Bad at Games* come together has fired him with enthusiasm for more film work, although he is under no illusions about the sort of hazards that may lie ahead. "Subsequently here will probably be unpremed disappointment, but at least I got off to a happy start. The whole thing was an enormous education for me: watching the film being made and seeing how Jack Gold worked. I was a lot wiser but definitely not sadder at the end of it."



Concerts

Not a moment let go to waste

Arditti Quartet
Huddersfield Festival

Once again, as each November, the musical mind of the country has taken itself to Huddersfield, whose Contemporary Music Festival is bursting with new things. Most days there are three or four concerts, with the gaps filled in by lectures, seminars and films. The schedule is tough, and toughened further by programming that does not waste our time with yesterday's music.

Friday night's Arditti Quartet recital was typical. The classics were Carter's Second and Third Quartets, both of them joined by a recent outburst from Xenakis, *Tera*, and a brand new quartet by James Dillon.

It was not, however, hard work. The Arditti play Carter the way most quartets play Haydn: strongly, sensibly, wisely, as if there were no difficulty of performance or understanding. They also gave a remarkably full and detailed account of the Dillon Quartet, which was completed less than three months ago. It is a work worthy of their expertise and care.

Playing continuously over a stretch of 20 minutes, it occupies a world of chattering brilliance interspersed with periods of lethargy. All four instruments enjoy playing with quick figures in the cold, clean air at the top of their registers, although sometimes the cellos may strike a base line in the even rhythmic values that give so much of the piece a decisive drive. Other inventions seem to exist to cloud individuality but have their own sharp elegance in the mazes of slow inter-penetrating

glossandos, networks of double stoppings, harmonics in high isolation if these are sloughs of despond, there are also barbs of obviousness to set the music racing again with intellectual and expressive energy.

The Xenakis, being music more hewn than thought and felt, was a good finale. It is a wonderfully barbaric piece, and although often coarse, it has savage beauties that the Arditti brought forward resolutely.

Paul Griffiths

LPO/Solti
Festival Hall

It was a concert that seemed a little too effortful in the assembling, and just a little too easy in the despatch. On Friday Haydn's "Military" Symphony became an overture, three pieces from Berio's *Danza* and *Faust* acted as a lightweight entrée, and the Brahms Violin Concerto ended a rather incohesive and ultimately strangely unsatisfying concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

It was not as if their conductor emeritus, Sir Georg Solti, failed to produce bold, often exciting playing, the polish, power and precision of the Haydn did not after all overdominate its less militaristic qualities of grace and good humour. The military was presented quite rightly, decoratively and fancifully, and it put the orchestra into a good mood for the Rakoczi March fantasy of the Berio.

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The "Will o' the Wisp" minuet, too, was lit with tense

FROM TONIGHT FOR 2 WEEKS
(eves 7.45, mats 23, 26 Nov & 3 Dec 8.00)
"Magical production" (Guardian)

Midsummer Night's Dream

"Bill Bryden" has woven a shimmering net of enchantment ... a triumph" (Telegraph)
"A production which may be thought of as definitive in years to come" (Time Out)
STANDSTILL (London Coliseum, EC2) 1983
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Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

We all know that the Royal Ballet is not exactly at its highest peak just at present, but there is no excuse for it to appear quite so depressingly poor as it did last week. The customary miscalcasing (based on the assumption that anyone who has been named a principal dancer must be suited to principal roles) was only partly to blame. Neither does the fault lie with the Covent Garden Orchestra: although playing in mafu, to draw attention to a pay dispute, they were no worse and no better than usual.

So how to account for the weary, lack-lustre air and the fact that some dances were doing markedly less well than they did in the same roles only last season? Why this loss of spirit, and how can it be remedied? Must heads roll (and, if so, whose), or will gentle measures prove enough? Whatever the answer, it is needed quickly.

Since *Raymonda Act III* was on the bill, I might have suspected my judgment to be jaundiced because of recent invidious comparisons. But it is not that the dances were without exception, much less well performed than in the new Paris production. They were poor by any standard; and the whole audience noticed it. Not one of the soloists and principal

Dance

pals roused enough applause to be able to come back and take a second bow.

The programme began with *Apollo* - or, to be accurate, *Apollo Scene II*, since it is given in the truncated form which Balanchine inexplicably preferred shortly before his death. One must not blame the Royal Ballet too much for that, since New York City Ballet have not yet restored the first scene, but they have said they intend to and Covent Garden should do likewise. Meanwhile, Stravinsky fans should be warned that he will not bear what the composer intended.

Bryony Brind had some nice moments, high-stepping at the beginning of her solo as *Terspichore*, but she had some odd moments too, and her colleagues were none of them at their best.

Ashton's *Varil Capricci* was the high spot of the evening, and will be fit for anyone who has not yet seen it, though I must say it does not really bear frequent viewing. As a piece for a gala occasion it is fine, in spite of Ossie Clark's silly costumes and David Hockney's splashy decor, but this season's programmes seem to be giving undue time to trivia. The cast of this work may be exempted from the general strictures, so all is not lost. But whoever wrote the programme note should look to his apostrophes.

John Percival

The Congressional Gold Medal has, for the second time, been given to a writer. The poet Robert Frost was the only author out of a total of 69 previous distinguished Americans to be so honoured, the first recipient of the award being George Washington.

It is possible that President Kennedy might have given the medal to Mailer or Bellow or Salinger or Nabokov but unlikely that he would have presented it, as President Reagan did the other day, to Louis L'Amour, whose name that cannot be, has written 87 books of which 86 are Westerns, and has achieved total sales of 140 million. President Reagan, well known for his horsemanship, presented the medal to him at a ceremony at the White House honouring the Professional Rodeo Cowboys' Association.

Perhaps our most successful author of Westerns, J. T. Edson, will receive his summons to the White House for services to the cause during the current Presidency.

For 27 years Macmillan have published a new volume in their annual celebration of the art of the short story, *Winter's Tales*. This year their fiction editor, James Hale, has done something rather dramatic. Not only does the book, in handsome red and gold dust wrapper, include 10 new short stories but its title has been changed to *A Christmas Feast*. The feast is less the 10 new stories (by the likes of Muriel Spark, Brian W. Aldiss and Fay Weldon) than the self-contained extracts from no fewer than 26 of the most varied and intelligent novels published this year, including those by Malcolm Bradbury, D. M. Thomas, Salman Rushdie, Amis, Schlesinger, A. N. Wilson, Graham Swift, Anthony Powell, John le Carré, Shiva Naipaul and Lawrence Durrell.

The large book, at £9.95, costs no more than many novels and is an absolute cornucopia of much that is best in contemporary British fiction. It is the bargain of the year, and will painlessly help you to decide which novels you want to read in full thereafter.

Mr Amis and Mr Burgess may not both have got on to the Book Marketing Council's latest promotional list of merely the 12 best novels written in the language since 1945 but they both have new novels coming from the same publisher, Hutchinson, in the Spring. Mr Amis's, *Stanley and the Women*, achieves the first page

of the new Hutchinson list; Mr Burgess's, *Endevour's Dark Lady*, is two pages later. Nor has Mr Burgess yet won the Booker Prize. Sometimes he must think he can never be first.

★ ★ ★

PUBLISHING
The wild western
winner

In my more jaundiced moments I wonder whether the English Centre of International PEN has more than about six members. Francis King, Lady Antonia Fraser, Katherine Nott, Lettice Cooper, Angus Wilson and probably another. International PEN is a most worthwhile and, alas, necessary organization but English PEN sometimes seems to exist for its own edification, which is fine. Even by its own standards of inbreeding some sort of record will surely be reached on its Writers' Day next Spring when, chaired by Lady Antonia, Sir Angus Wilson will speak on ... Angus Wilson.

It is not too surprising that neither Sir Angus nor Doris Lessing and Muriel Spark are among the BMC's star novelists. All three were on the selectors' list for a previous promotion, *The Best of British Authors*, but were removed unilaterally by the BMC's director, Desmond Clarke, as he decided they were not promotable. Mr Clarke will not have to publicize the latest list (what would he have done with Ivy Compton-Burnett and Elizabeth Taylor?) as he is off to Faber and Faber as marketing director. E. J. Craddock

Television
Brilliant British raid on the Americans

Where were you when they broadcast *Kennedy*? (ITV in Britain, 24 other channels in far-flung places round the globe.) Glued to the set no doubt, or at least checking that the video was working. Any difficulties you may have had in fixing your mental template of *JFK* over the nearer, rounder features of Martin Sheen will not, in all probability, have detracted from your absorption in either the portrait of bygone days of the story itself.

Reg Gadney, author and prime mover of this brilliant British raid on what should have been an inviolably American preserve, thinks his hero was a curiously empty man. That, presumably, was the key to Kennedy's success (politicians whose heads are full of their own thoughts seldom manage to ride the wave of the moment) and it is also perhaps the key to the success of Gadney's script and Jim Goddard's direction, and to Sheen's success in the central part. Into

this empty vessel has been poured a rich cinematic brew, a plethora of plots and sub-plots unfolding with melodramatic intensity against a blindingly "authentic" backdrop.

"Squirt some juice into people's lives", exulted Bobby, anticipating the effect the new dynasty would have on a jaded nation. Grandpa Joe, a macho gleam in his eye, was shown presiding over a notably tough and (not to put too fine a point on it) juice-squirting clan. Frolicking in their pools, playing football on the New England cliff, bringing "class" to the dowdy halls of government, these stars of a real-life movie were seen constantly shadowed by the evil machinations of an arch-blackmailer.

"The Kennedy weakness is sex", said J. Edgar Hoover (Vicente Gardena) with twisted relish. Gadney and Goddard took every opportunity to point up this threat as the fragile, flawed but lovable creatures set about embellishing their trying to steer the ship of state. Vanity,

claim that the statesman who died at Dallas would have become an even greater force for sanity and moderation had he lived.

The swirling emotionalism of the drama obscures some of the crucial historical points on which discussion turned in *The Kennedy Legacy* (BBC2). The trouble with this in many ways fascinating programme was that virtually all the interviews were supported. Was Kennedy privately irresponsible? "Everybody has some faults", beamed his erstwhile chum Lord Heseltine; his sex-life was politically irrelevant, said Arthur Schlesinger. The president who emerged from this undeniably intelligent discussion was a mellowing man, growing with the job. Was the Cuban missile crisis his finest hour, or his most shameful one? BBC2 was ambivalent. What will Gadney and Goddard have to say? We shall know tomorrow night.

Michael Church

These responsibilities should not be minimized: this may be "entertainment" but it is also the nearest some people may ever get to a history of a period which, through the retoric of contemporary politicians, is still very much with us. Kennedy's detractors accuse him of duplicity, timidity at home and recklessness abroad. His supporters concede some early mistakes and weaknesses but

are such an unlikely looking bunch of scurvy, with their unkempt image and home-made haircuts, that they fall back into the eccentric mould once inhabited by the Lovin' Spoonful.

R.E.M. stand on their own by virtue of some mesmerizing songs. Minor-key melodies clatter against hard rhythms while Michael Stipe's vocals drift through a ferocious wall of Rickenbacker noise. Poor sound occasionally disguised the intent of "Sorry", "Pilgrimage" and "Laughing" but the power of the band's stage presence kept them on course in the face

of howling feedback. It even worked in their favour. Beside Stipe the instrumental approach of Berry, Buck and Mills was richly enigmatic. They shifted gears like a bad-tempered pickup truck they would bump and bang over rough terrain then surprise everyone by rolling along on the flat as if nothing was wrong. R.E.M.'s classic tales of angst, "Radio Free Europe" and the single "Talk About the Passion", illustrated their rare quality. They modulated from tearful emotion to a psychotic peak.

Max Bell

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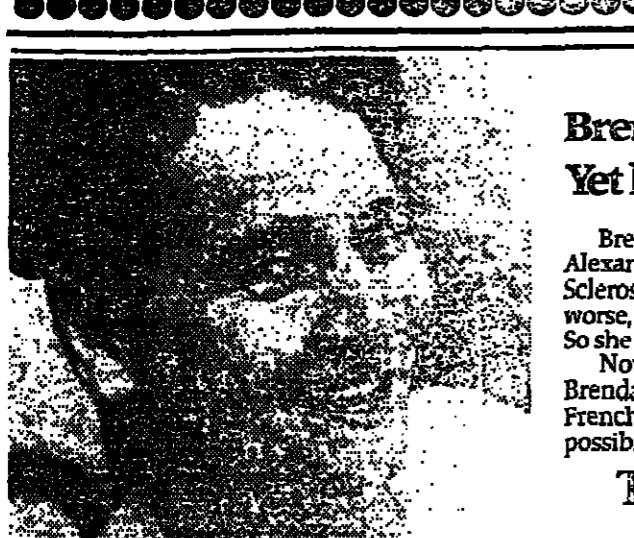
Michael Church

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Max Bell

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OTENBACH
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Brenda Solomon is incurable.
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Yes, I would like to help. Please tick:
 I enclose a donation to the RHH.

Spending boom spreading to wholesalers, says CBI

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Retailers look set to experience a record Christmas spending spurt. According to the latest investigations by the Confederation of British Industry, almost 80 per cent of shopkeepers expect this month's sales to be up on a year ago.

The CBI's survey of the distributive trades, published today, also reveals that the high street boom has begun to spread to a wide cross-section of wholesalers, including those who supply industry, and may be an indication that the gradual economic recovery will continue to be consumer-led for months to come.

The CBI figures show that throughout the distributive trades, companies have been caught out by the speed of the rise in demand. In September, a positive balance of 42 per cent expected the October sales volume to be up; in the event, the balance turned out to be 54 per cent. A similar increase in sales volume is now predicted

for this month compared with last year.

On the buoyant retail front, the volume of orders placed with suppliers was significantly higher than in the same month a year ago, giving a positive balance of 49 per cent of retailers saying they had stepped up orders. A similar increase is expected in the year to the end of November.

Some large shops, even in the depressed West Midlands, are said to be reporting sales increases of 25 per cent compared with the same time last year.

The CBI figures show that despite the recession, the motor trade, which appears to be losing impetus since the record August boom in car sales in October, 48 per cent said sales were down on a year earlier and 47 per cent reported a rise in stocks.

This month, 35 per cent of motor traders expect sales to be down compared with November last year and 42 per cent plan to reduce their orders to suppliers.

Despite the healthy signs in the distributive trades, industrialists are still concerned that without an increase in activity in the basic manufacturing sectors, the retail boom will serve to suck in more imports.

In turn, wholesalers expect their demand to manufacturers

ECU bond launching

Copenhagen (Reuter) — The European Community's 10-year bond of 75 million European currency units will be split into two parts and is expected to be launched today, the joint lead-manager, Sparekassen SDS, reported.

A total of 50 million currency units will carry an 11 per cent coupon and be priced at par; the rest will carry a low coupon of 6 per cent and a premium redemption to yield almost 11 per cent.

The second issue is expected to be floated on the Copenhagen bourse.

The Week Ahead, page 14

STOCK EXCHANGES

Change on week

FT Index: 721.4 down 3.7
FT Gilts: 83.15 down 0.55
FT All Share: 452.18 down 1.3

Bargains: 17.902

Datavstream: USM Leaders Index: 95.05 down 1.45

New York Dow Jones Average: 1251.02 up 0.82

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,385.68 up 81.05

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 856.49 up 21.55

Amsterdam: 148.4 down 2.1

Sydney: ASX Index: 713 up 0.6

Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 1009.3 down 6.5

Brussels: General Index 127.11 up 4.23

Paris: CAC Index: 144.8 up 2.7

Zurich: SKA General 295.1 up 5.1

CURRENCIES

Change on week

LONDON

Sterling: \$1.4700 down 175pts.
Index: 83.6 down 0.5

DM: 3.9725 down 0.01

Frt: 12.1050 down 0.005

Yen: 347.00 down 3.50

Dollar: Index: 128.7 up 0.7

DM: 2.7040

NEW YORK

Sterling: \$1.4665

Dollar: DM 2.7052

INTERNATIONAL

ECU: 0.568519

SDR: 0.709303

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):

am \$376.25 pm \$375.25

close \$376.00 (2255.75)

New York (latest): \$377.50

Kronerand (per coin):

\$382.50-388.00 (2263.00-2042.00)

Sovereigns* (new):

\$88.50-\$89.50 (250-261.00)

*Excludes VAT

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ANNUAL MEETINGS

TODAY — Resource Technology, 24 Austin Friars, EC2 (10 am).

WEDNESDAY — Barratt Developments, Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon).

THURSDAY — Amstrad Consumer Electronics, The Northumberland Suite, Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, 748 High Road, Tottenham, N1 (3 pm); Goodman Brothers, The Westbury Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon); John Menzies Corporation, Midland Hotel, Peter Street, Manchester (noon); TSW Television South West Holdings, The Studios, Derry's Cross, Plymouth (2.30).

FRIDAY — Great Universal Stores, Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, London EC2 (noon); M. P. Kent, The Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol (noon); Mansons Finance Trust, Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, W1 (noon).

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FOOTBALL: WHY THE RICH GET RICHER AS THE POOR GET POORER

The red dawn of the super-league

By Stuart Jones,
Football CorrespondentLuton 2
Tottenham 2

The dawn of the superleague, tinged appropriately with red, has broken and the chairman who irrationally resisted its arrival may reflect that they helped to usher it in eight months ago.

In rejecting Sir Norman Chester's proposal to reduce the top two divisions and accepting the idea that hosts should keep all gate receipts, they left the poorer clubs stuck in the darkness.

"The strongest League in the world is beginning to disintegrate," Ron Saunders, Birmingham City's manager, said on Saturday. "Soon we'll be like the Germans and the Dutch with only half a dozen teams challenging for prizes." Soon? Over the last three seasons the championship and both cups have been held by either Liverpool, Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur or Aston Villa.

Only they, Arsenal and perhaps West Ham United in the first division can afford to buy the best players and consistently maintain a big enough squad to cover for injuries that inevitably occur during the absurdly crowded season. Take the contrasting examples of Tottenham and Luton.

FA Cup: Whitby and Telford beat fourth division opposition in first round

Striving for better results without a drop in standards

The renaissance of Corinthian-Casuals in their centenary year - Casuals being founded one year after the legendary Corinthians - was the most notable in the FA Cup at the Dulwich Hamlet end on Saturday. There, the palpable inadequacies of Bristol City, who performed with a total absence of professional class.

Indeed, when the teams appeared on the field it was necessary to consult the programme to confirm that the side in sponsored white shirts with embroking-shiny thighs and an air of bumbling innocence were the amateurs and that those in red with the skin-knee knees were somewhere near the top of the fourth division.

If Bristol City are paying their way, it must be that they have many loyal aunts and uncles paying at the turnstiles. However, under scrutiny was not so much City's justification for an existence as full-time professionals - which for all their manager, Terry Cooper's selfless application must be most questionable - as the Corinthians' ability to extend a world-renowned heritage into the fourth division, in the face of overwhelming difficulties.

The replay at Ashton Gate on Wednesday should add a healthy lump to their appeal fund, the sum of which is to secure at least their own ground. The £5,000 or so to be shared from a 2,500 crowd on Saturday will have been denoted by the expense of £100 a head per policeman: the six on duty were swiftly augmented after only three minutes of the match by 15 of those on street duty, in order to deal with the Millwall guncrackers bent on a grisly meet-up with Bristol's more or less disinterested.

Happy there was no disorder on the pitch, which will be welcomed by those who have wondered whether Corinthian-Casuals' playing revival

was being achieved at the expense of those real but sometimes intangible attributes to sportsmanship which gave the two clubs, before their 1959 amalgamation, such cherished professional class.

In the past two years under the energetic first-team management of Bill Smith, a long-standing denizen of Covent Garden, Soho, Spitalfields and the non-league London football scene, the club has engaged many new improved players through his shrewd eye for quality, and the abysmal results of the past 10 years have been forgotten. Yet so it seemed.

In those two seasons, the team incurred 10 send-offs and 60 bookings, with another nine bookings this season. Such was the hostility within the Isthmian League council, with accusations that the club's reputation was destroyed, that the former schoolmaster and chairman, P. W. Wilkinson, recently resigned. This loyalty to tradition can be forgiven if he metaphorically saw himself as football's Squire Trevelyan with grave misgivings about Long John Silver's enlistment of acquaintances aboard Hispaniola: he resented having to confront swearing supporters in the main stand who abused referees.

Those club officials, including true-blue former Oxfordshire players, who supported Smith and his team of market porters, printers and taxi drivers, take the view that if Corinthian-Casuals can recruit unemployed young players from Brixton and persuade them to play for no money, can help them find a job (as in past years of fame) and that those in red with the skin-knee knees were somewhere near the top of the fourth division.

The question mark remains how much they are primarily playing for Smith - "We'd do anything for him" one said on television - and how

Town, locked in an enthralling contest at Kenilworth Road on Saturday.

Tottenham were without internationals from five different nations - Ardiles, Mabbett, Galvin (who will all miss the UEFA Cup) and Bremner, Munich, on Wednesday, Brazil and Price (who may not) - as well as Brooke and Hazard. Yet they could still dig into their extensive reserves and produce two 18-year-old wingers, Dick and Cooke, capped as youths by their countries.

Despite losing only Bunn, Horton and Moss from their list of regulars, Luton were forced to dust away the cobwebs from Goodyear, a central defender as sharp on the turn as an articulated lorry, and play with "no natural width". David Pleat admitted that he had no one on his relatively depleted staff who could perform on the flanks "at this level".

Luton's unbeaten home record, particularly in view of the irresistible form of Archibald and Hoddle, was clearly in danger. So was the rhythm of the match thanks to the spectacularly awful refereeing of Maurice Robinson, who also spoilt Ipswich Town's fixture at Southampton recently.

Although the quality was marginally lower than Tottenham's memorable draw against Liverpool the previous Saturday, Keith Burkinshaw's claim that quantity of thrills was higher was not to say that, do you?

It can be no coincidence that since he recovered from injury towards the end of September, Tottenham have re-

mained unbeaten in the League, have justified the referee's first debatable decision, to award a penalty against Stephens for accidental hand-ball, began it all but Hoddle succeeded only in shuddering a post.

Cooke ("a terrific little prospect who looks about twelve", Burkinshaw said, and not to be confused with Crook, Crooks, now on loan at United, or Brookes) gave Tottenham the lead 32 minutes into his first appearance. Hill, Walsh and Stein, who struck the same post with his penalty, all failed to take

opportunities to equalize. Archibald, by taking his total to 13 goals in 14 games, made them pay for their profligacy, although each time he left Goodyear labouring in his wake, he merely stirred Stein and Walsh. Yet the Luton forwards, England's players of the future, took only two of what Burkinshaw described as "a ridiculous number of chances".

Pleat was scarcely more impressed with his defence that was to make the last of their "terrible mistakes" three minutes from the end. Dick finished the sweeping move but it was started as usual by Hoddle, who is his creative class of his own. Hoddle was wonderful, "Pleat conceded." But you don't need to say that, do you?

The referee booked Völler, of West Germany and Musta, Ahmedzai and Rama of Albania in an ill-tempered game.

Afterwards, Jupp Derwall, the West German manager, was not

dropped only four points and have risen 14 places. Their threat to Liverpool and United will become even more menacing this week if they succeed in temping Olsen away from Ajax.

Peat, who looked significantly at the results at those at the bottom of the table, smiled at the prospect and said: "We would love to buy a left-sided midfield player like that but we would go broke."

Saunders can see that happening to some first division clubs anyway and also that "some third and fourth division sides will end up as part timers".

Some managers offer solutions to redress the balance. Saunders himself feels that the freedom of contract is to blame. Terry Venables, of Queens Park Rangers, says that players should serve the full length of their contract. John Bond, of Burnley, would ban transfers during the season. Yet as Sir Norman foresaw some 15 years ago, a superleague is so inevitable that they may as well think of ways to prevent the sun from rising tomorrow.

LUTON TOWN: 1. Sealey, K. Stephens, W. Turner, C. Goodyear, P. Elliott, M. Donaghy, R. Hill, B. Stein, P. Walsh, T. Völler, R. Arict.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R. Clemence, C. Houghton, D. Thomas, G. Roberts, G. Stevens, G. Perryman, A. Dick, S. Archibald, M. Fabio, G. Cooke.

Referee: L. Robinson (Sutton Coldfield).

Referee: L. Robinson (

Law Report November 21 1983

Solicitors should not blindly follow counsel

Davy-Chiesman v Davy-Chiesman
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Dillon
Judgment delivered November 18

A solicitor nominated to act for a litigant in receipt of legal aid owed a duty to inform the Legal Aid Committee of any change in circumstances which could substantially affect the litigant's chance of success in the litigation. A solicitor who failed in that duty could be ordered to bear personally the costs of his own client or of another party to the litigation.

Although the solicitor was in many circumstances protected from personal liability if he had acted on the advice of experienced counsel he could not be exonerated if he blindly followed his views expressed by counsel without concerning his own independent judgment.

The Court of Appeal so stated in allowing an appeal by the Law Society (Legal Aid Fund) from a decision of Mr Justice Latey given on February 3, 1983, who had dismissed an application by the Law Society under Order 62, rule 8 of the Rules of the Supreme Court in respect of the costs of certain proceedings between a divorced husband and wife.

The husband, who was the subject of a criminal bankruptcy order, had been issued a legal aid certificate to enable him to be represented on applications for financial provision from his wife and access to the child of the marriage. That certificate was limited to preparation of papers for counsel and counsel's opinion.

Counsel, Mr J. J. Dillon, after a conference on February 26, 1982, advised in a written opinion dated March 2, 1982, that no lump sum should be payable direct to the husband, otherwise it would be taken immediately by the latter's trustee in bankruptcy.

The opinion was forwarded to the Law Society and the limitation was removed from the husband's legal aid certificate on March 16, 1982.

On April 19, 1982, the solicitor and his client attended another conference with counsel who then advised that the application should be for a lump sum payable to the husband direct. That was the course pursued by counsel when the application was heard before the judge and dismissed.

The wife asked for her costs to be paid out of the Legal Aid Fund. The application for costs was adjourned to enable the Legal Aid Fund to make representations. The Law Society issued an application under Order 62, rule 8 that the solicitor who had acted for the husband, Mr Ralph Haems, should pay both the husband's and wife's costs personally. The judge dismissed the application.

Order 62, rule 8 (1) provides: "Subject to the following provisions of this rule, where in any proceedings costs are incurred improperly or without reasonable cause or are wasted by undue delay or by any other misconduct or default, the court may make against any solicitor whom it considers to be responsible (whether personally or through a servant or agent) an order - (a) disallowing the costs as between the solicitor and his client; and (b) directing the solicitor to repay to his client costs which the client has been made to pay to other parties to the proceedings; or (c) directing the solicitor personally to indemnify such other parties against costs payable by them."

Mr Swinton Thomas, QC and Mr Duncan Matheson for the Law Society (Legal Aid Fund); Mr Kenneth Machin, QC and Mr John Caulde for the solicitor; Mr Ian Kennedy, QC and Mr Iain Hughes for the Law Society contentious business committee as *amicus curiae*.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that although the argument in the appeal ranged fairly widely over the principle, the only real issue was whether in the circumstances the solicitor was entitled to be exonerated from liability because he acted throughout under the advice, and indeed under the domination, of experienced counsel properly instructed.

With respect to certain of the submissions which Mr Kennedy put before the court on behalf of the Law Society in its capacity of protector of the interests of practising solicitors, he said in contentious business certain points were, in his Lordship's view, clear beyond possibility of serious argument.

First, the court had a jurisdiction, the basis of which was hopefully examined in *Currie and Co v The Law Society* [1977] QB 990 to order the solicitor for a party to litigation to bear personally the costs of his own client or of another party to the litigation.

Second, the circumstances in which jurisdiction would be exercised had been expressed in slightly different language by different judges in *Myers v Elman* [1940] 1 AC 282 and in *There Ltd v Royal Bank of Scotland* [1982] 1533. Broadly, what had to be shown was that the solicitor had been guilty of a "serious dereliction of duty" or "serious misconduct".

Third, unreasonably to initiate or continue an action when it had no or substantially no chance of success might constitute conduct attracting an exercise of the above jurisdiction.

Fourth, in general there was no reason in principle why the fact that a solicitor was acting under a legal aid certificate should preclude the exercise of that jurisdiction.

Fifth, in its judgment in the case on the husband's application for financial provision against his wife, Mr Justice Dillon found, and was amply justified in finding that the application was without any merit and should not have been made and most certainly should not have been pursued to its end.

Sixth, a solicitor nominated to act for a litigant in receipt of legal aid owed a duty to inform the Legal Aid Committee of any change in circumstances as a result of which it appeared to the solicitor or would appear to a reasonable solicitor that the assisted person who was his client no longer had any or any substantial chance of success in continuing to prosecute or defend the litigation in question: see *Shaw v Vauxhall Motors Ltd* [(1974) 1 WLR 1035].

Undoubtedly, however, and rightly, the solicitor was in many circumstances protected from personal liability if he had acted on the

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Moreover, even if counsel did at the conference, apparently for instructional purposes, on February 26, 1982, express views which were not shared by the solicitor, he was in no position to be surprised by the husband's opinion of the grant in March 1982.

His Lordship had considerable difficulty in seeing how on the facts of the case anyone could have seriously thought that the husband had after a very short marriage any financial claim against the wife, but on that the solicitor was entitled to rely on the opinion of counsel.

Moreover, even if counsel did at the conference, apparently for instructional purposes, on February 26, 1982, express views which were not shared by the solicitor, he was in no position to be surprised by the husband's opinion of the grant in March 1982.

The husband, who was the subject of a criminal bankruptcy order, had been issued a legal aid certificate to enable him to be represented on applications for financial provision from his wife and access to the child of the marriage. That certificate was limited to preparation of papers for counsel and counsel's opinion.

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Post C is for up to three years from 1.1.84. Salary on the Research Fellow £1,200-£1,615 plus superannuation.

For further particulars phone 021 472 1301 ext. 2659, quoting reference TE.

Applications are invited for the above posts from suitably qualified chemical or mechanical engineers. The posts involve work in the Research Establishment at Harwell and the Chemical Engineering Department of the University of Birmingham on fundamental aspects of heat transfer in the areas of natural convection and cryogenic engineering. A degree in chemical engineering or a closely related discipline and much of the experimental work will be carried out at AERE Harwell, Oxfordshire.

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